

## Officers charged in bombings of mayors

By DAVID RICHARDSON  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

A U.S.-born resident of Shilo in the West Bank who is currently a Gush Emunim aliyah emissary in New York, Ira Rappaport, is the hitherto unnamed person suspected of involvement in the attempted assassination of the former mayor of Nablus Bassam Shak'a.

Another person suspected of involvement in the attempted assassinations of the former mayors of Ramallah and El-Bireh is still at large somewhere in Israel.

Police have arrested Rabbi Eliezer Waldman, head of the Kiryat Arba yeshiva and a candidate for the Knesset on the Tebiya-Tzomet list, on suspicion of having known of the alleged terrorist group's activities. He is to appear before a judge today when the police will ask for his arrest to be extended.

Rabbi Moshe Levinger of Hebron was released on bail yesterday. It is not yet clear whether the state plans to bring charges against him.

Meanwhile, charges were filed yesterday against two army officers, serving with the West Bank military government, alleging that they knew of the plans to attack the mayors and did nothing to prevent them. One of the officers knew that a bomb had been placed outside the garage of the former mayor of El-Bireh, Ibrahim Tawil, and said nothing when the Druse sapper Suleiman Hirbawi started his search, it is alleged.

Hirbawi was blinded when he touched a trip wire.

District Court Judge Amihud Ze'evi agreed reluctantly to extend the court order banning publication of the suspects' names until next Wednesday, when he will decide

whether to remand them until the end of the proceedings.

One of the officers is a major and a resident of Shilo. Both officers face charges of causing grievous bodily harm, dereliction of duty and failure to prevent a crime.

One also faces charges of attempted murder or, alternately, placing an explosive charge.

Both appeared in civilian clothes yesterday, unlike the army officers charged on Wednesday who appeared in full uniform. Unlike the 25 suspects who appeared in court the day before, the two officers were subdued and obviously apprehensive about the legal ordeal awaiting them.

According to the charge sheet, one of the officers provided intelligence about the mayors, their movements and their cars to the members of the alleged terrorist group, knowing that they intended to attack them.

Shortly before the attacks were due to take place, he was informed that because of difficulties the plotters had encountered in placing a charge in Tawil's car, which was kept in a locked garage, they anticipated some danger to an IDF sapper should he be called to the house before the device exploded.

This emerges from the charge sheet as well as from statements from those accused of carrying out the attack. Their statements were read out in court yesterday.

The officer was asked to inform his colleague, then stationed with the military government in Ramallah. Neither of the officers informed their superiors, it is alleged.

The second officer accompanied

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)



Hebron Rabbi Moshe Levinger talks with the press yesterday after his release on bail from the police headquarters at Jerusalem's Russian Compound. (Isaac Elbarar - Scoop 80)

## Liberian tanker hit, reportedly sinking Saudi planes in Gulf chase Iranian jets

Post Mideast Affairs Reporter and Agencies

For the first time, Saudi Arabian planes scrambled yesterday to intercept Iranian aircraft attacking oil tankers, heralding a possible escalation of the war in the Persian Gulf.

A State Department spokesman in Washington said that an Iranian plane attacked a Liberian oil tanker in the Gulf, and first reports were that the ship was sinking. The spokesman also told reporters the Saudi planes scrambled and chased the attacking Iranian aircraft, but apparently failed to make contact.

The Iranian strike, the sixth independently confirmed attack on a tanker in the Gulf in a month, followed claims by Iraq that its aircraft had attacked and hit "two big naval targets" southeast of Iran's Kharg Island terminal.

The official Iraqi news agency quoted a military spokesman in Baghdad as saying that the fighters inflicted "accurate and effective" hits on the targets. But he did not disclose the nationality of the ships.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein

has vowed to tighten his blockade on Kharg and, when additional weapons are obtained by Iraq, move on to demolish the island itself.

The Iraqi spokesman said the attack on the two identified ships was a "further affirmation of Iraq's determination to tighten the blockade of the Kharg terminal."

Marine sources and salvage company executives in Bahrain disclaimed any knowledge about air attacks on commercial ships in the war zone during the day.

"We have not received any distress signals during the day," said one salvage company source. "But we are aware of the Iraqi announcement."

Meanwhile, diplomatic efforts to defuse the dangerously escalating situation in the Gulf continued yesterday.

Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Farouk Sharak returned to Damascus yesterday after mediation talks in Tehran aimed at curbing attacks on oil tankers in the Persian Gulf.

## IAF raids terrorist base

By HIRSH GOODMAN  
Post Defence Correspondent

TEL AVIV - Israel Air Force planes yesterday afternoon attacked a terrorist base at Bar Elias, eight kilometres south of Zahle in Lebanon's Bek'a Valley. Army spokesmen said all aircraft returned safely to base, and that pilots reported accurate hits.

The target served as a regional terrorist headquarters, according to spokesmen.

Israeli military sources last night said that the raid - the second in five days - was part of Israel's policy of pre-emptive strikes against the terrorists in Lebanon, and did not indicate anything more than that.

The raid probably followed intelligence reports on terrorist organiza-

tion for future action, or came in response to the terrorist incidents against IDF troops in Southern Lebanon this past week. Five soldiers were injured in these attacks.

According to the Associated Press, Beirut radio reports said the base was being used by the Syrian-backed Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command of Ahmed Jibril.

AP said the Christian Voice of Lebanon quoted witnesses in Bar Elias as saying the position was set ablaze and that clouds of smoke could be seen. The report also said that Syrian soldiers and PLO units had sealed off the area as ambulances raced to the scene.

There were no immediate reports of casualties.

## Monthly wage supplement won by much of public sector

By ROY ISACOWITZ

TEL AVIV - Interior Ministry and many other public sector workers will receive a monthly wage supplement of IS 10.344, a joint Histadrut-Treasury committee decided yesterday.

A list of those eligible for the supplement will be drawn up by the Civil Servants Union.

It was unclear last night whether the decision to award the supplement would end the work sanctions taken this week by Interior Ministry and postal service workers.

Histadrut sources said that not all public sector unions appeared to be satisfied with the arrangement.

Payment of the bonus will be retroactive to April 1, and it will be considered a regular component salary for all purposes.

It will be given to workers of all grades who do not receive any other

personal salary supplements. Workers who receive a smaller personal supplement will receive the new supplement in its place.

The supplement is intended to equalize the salaries of different workers in the public sector.

Civil service pensioners are also eligible for the supplement.

Representatives of Interior Ministry and railway workers attended yesterday's meeting. Other workers mentioned yesterday as being eligible for the supplement are government technicians, engineers and journalists.

The joint committee was established several years ago to solve problems arising from national wage agreements.

The Treasury was represented by budget director Hillel Duda'i, and the Histadrut by acting trade union division head Haim Haberfeld.

Aaron Sittner adds:

In Jerusalem last night, the chairman of the Interior Ministry staff committee Yehzekel Lavie, told *The Jerusalem Post*: "We shall continue with our sanctions until we receive a written document which states exactly what they told us at the meeting. Furthermore, even a written undertaking will not be acceptable unless the wage adjustment applies to ministry pensioners as well as to us."

The sanctions by Communications Ministry workers will also continue today, a ministry spokesman indicated last night. Yesterday morning, work was disrupted as employees attended staff meetings held during working hours. Those meetings lasted for 30 minutes to an hour. Today's meetings are expected to last longer.

## Breakthrough seen in military ties with U.S.

By WOLF BLITZER  
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON - U.S. and Israeli officials in Washington agree that there has been considerable progress in strengthening their mutual military relationship in recent months, but only a small portion of their achievements has so far become public knowledge.

What appears to be developing - slowly but surely - is a radically new American-Israeli defence alliance. It is a partnership that is most likely to eventually result in Israel's playing an increasingly more important strategic role for the U.S.

This represents a fundamental breakthrough, according to both American and Israeli specialists. "Israel is becoming integrated into the U.S. global defence system, much like Italy, Turkey and South Korea," one American expert noted. "There will be important benefits for both sides."

Every branch of the U.S. armed forces and the intelligence community is directly involved. The U.S. Air Force, which has traditionally been the closest of the U.S. services to Israel, has exchanged the most sensitive information on aerial warfare with its Israeli counterpart. Most recently, there was a lengthy exchange on the lessons learned by Israel during the fighting in Lebanon in the summer of 1982.

Other branches of the U.S. military are following the air force lead.

General P.X. Kelly, the marine commandant, visited Israel earlier this year and is described by his associates at the Pentagon as having returned to Washington a true believer in the strategic importance of Israel to America.

Not coincidentally, the U.S. Marine Corps is moving ahead with closer cooperation with Israel. The marines are said to have purchased from Israel the powerful B-300 anti-tank weapon. According to U.S. reports, the marines want to upgrade the weapon to destroy heavily armed fortifications.

Israel is also said to be designing for the marines a new tactical assault bridge which Israel will co-produce

with an American firm. These are concrete steps which are the result of an improved overall relationship.

The U.S. Army also is very much involved in the emerging *de facto* alliance with Israel. At least a year before the October 1983 bombing of U.S. Marine headquarters in Beirut, the army had proposed entering into some pre-arranged emergency medical procedures with Israel. There was some political footdragging, resulting in the non-use of Israeli medical facilities in the immediate aftermath of the tragedy.

But since then, there has been speedy and impressive progress. In December, for example, there was a formal agreement designed to make Israeli facilities available to U.S. servicemen. As Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger disclosed this week in Washington, the Americans already are taking advantage of

that pact. An American soldier with severe burns, he said, was recently treated at a Tel Aviv hospital.

Weinberger also confirmed that the U.S. and Israel were planning a joint medical exercise in the near future. This will involve many American and Israeli troops.

In recent months, there has been a dramatically stepped up use of Haifa by U.S. warships.

U.S. and Israeli officials agree the change of attitude in the navy toward Israel began in large measure with the arrival of Navy Secretary John Lehman during the early days of the Reagan administration. Lehman, a National Security Council staffer under Henry Kissinger, is a strong supporter of Israel. He also is a fighter pilot in the naval reserves who has come to appreciate Israel's talents. He set a new tone toward

(Continued on Page 3)

## Reagan wants missiles for Saudis

WASHINGTON - President Ronald Reagan's administration is reviving its plan to sell 1,200 Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to Saudi Arabia to help that country defend shipping in the Persian Gulf, a White House spokesman said yesterday.

But the spokesman, in confirming the report disclosed earlier by a congressional source, said Reagan would not request the sale unless it was determined Congress would go along with it.

"We began preliminary consultations with the Hill (Congress) yesterday on the question of equipment, including Stingers, for Saudi Arabia," said the White House official, who asked not to be identified.

"Obviously, we would not go forward with something if the consultations indicated Congress would

oppose it."

The White House official said the administration felt the issue was more pressing now.

The congressional source said administration officials told key members of Congress that it would submit the proposal in "the near future" as part of Reagan's pledge to help friendly countries in the Gulf region.

The *New York Times* reported that administration officials told key members of Congress yesterday that the move to send the Stingers was in response to an urgent request from King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, had talks on the Gulf crisis in Riyadh on Monday and Tuesday. (AP, Reuter)

## Shells fall near IDF in eastern Lebanon

Jerusalem Post Reporter

METULIA - Two loud explosions were heard yesterday near Israeli positions in eastern Lebanon near the front line.

They occurred near Jib Iannine, and apparently were the result of two rockets or shells landing. No one was hurt.

Two Katyusha rockets landed last week near an IDF position at Baalul, in the eastern front.

In Sidon yesterday soldiers of the armed South Lebanese Army fired shots at IDF troops by mistake. No one was hurt and the firing stopped after the soldiers identified themselves.

## Karameh informs envoys of Israeli 'violations' in South

BEIRUT - Prime Minister Rashid Karameh yesterday met the ambassadors of the U.S., Britain and the Soviet Union to ask them to help end what he described as Israeli human rights violations in South Lebanon.

Karameh said on Wednesday he planned to ask international human rights organizations and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council to look into what he said were Israel's "irregular and inhuman practices" in occupied Lebanese territory.

Meanwhile, Shi'a leader Nabih Berri said settling the issue of who commands the army is the key to progress toward peace.

Berri's statement came after a cabinet committee asked him about the likelihood of opening more crossings between Beirut's Moslem and Christian halves. He said it could not be done "unless there is agreement over the army."

"This thing is, in reality, all the things," he said.

Berri, a cabinet minister as well as head of the Shi'ite Moslem Amal militia, said he still wants a "collective committee" to run the army, which traditionally has been commanded by a Maronite Christian.

"I'm sorry it didn't have any acceptance, and I still insist that this is the proper solution," Berri said, referring to the plan he presented at a meeting of the full cabinet on Wednesday.

As Berri and two other ministers discussed reuniting the government's broadcast stations - split, like the army, along sectarian lines - sniper fire and rocket-propelled grenades were traded between Christian and Moslem militiamen in Beirut and its suburbs.

Police said a woman was killed in the Christian neighbourhood of Tabaris, and that three other civilians were wounded. That raised the casualty toll since the latest ceasefire was declared April 19 to 71 killed and more than 450 wounded.

## JERUSALEM DAY IN THE JERUSALEM POST

The City of Gold becomes a city of many splendoured things, in the Jerusalem Day Supplement, Wednesday, May 30.

- \* In a city where heavy industry is banned, there is still a thriving industrial community.
- \* Jerusalem of Glass: a report on a recent symposium on architectural glass.
- \* Matchmaking in Jerusalem, with a difference.
- \* Dig We Must: one of the favourite Jerusalem activities is digging. Archaeological seminars in the city now give residents and visitors a chance to dig for a day.
- \* Jerusalem's glittering history ranges back thousands of years. But its more recent account is worth a visit to the Old Yishuv Museum.

The Jerusalem Post Jerusalem Day Supplement - don't miss it.

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COPENHAGEN	11	17	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	10	16	Cloudy
GENEVA	10	16	Cloudy
LONDON	10	16	Cloudy
MADRID	12	20	Cloudy
MONTREAL	10	16	Cloudy
NEW YORK	10	16	Cloudy
PARIS	10	16	Cloudy
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## THE WEATHER

Forecast: Warm and dry in the hills

	Yesterday's Humidity	Yesterday's Min-Max	Today's Max
Jerusalem	13	16-20	32
Golan	16	14-34	35
Nahariya	16	—	—
Safed	20	14-31	32
Haifa Port	28	18-24	26
Tiberias	29	18-25	35
Nazareth	28	16-33	33
Afula	28	16-34	34
Shimon	27	16-33	34
Tel Aviv	37	17-26	27
B-G Airport	42	20-31	32
Jericho	19	—38	39
Gaza	19	16-26	27
Beersheva	31	14-35	36
Eilat	4	22-40	41

## SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Ezer Weizman will speak on Foreign and Security Policy at the Haifa Engineers Club at 1 p.m. today. Table reservations by phone, 674583.

Prof. Raphael Levine, of the Hebrew University's faculty of science, and Prof. David Nathaniel Seidman, of the university's graduate school of applied science and technology, have been elected to the status of fellows in the New York-based American Physical Society.

## In Memoriam

Safed residents yesterday marked the 10th anniversary of the slaughter of more than two dozen of the town's youngsters in the Ma'alot school terrorist attack. The ceremony, at the Safed cemetery, was attended by Deputy Minister Dov Shilansky and former IDF chief of staff Rafael Eitan.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir yesterday participated in a memorial ceremony at Mount Herzl in Jerusalem for David Raziel, former chief of the Irgun Zva'i Leumi underground.

## ARRIVALS

Prof. Alex Russell of Jerusalem, from a lecture tour in the U.S., where he was elected president of the International College of Pediatrics.

Mrs. Hella Gerner, president of the Austrian Friends of TAU, Mr. Marjan Rietner and Mr. David Rabinovitch from Austria, Dr. and Mrs. Michael Perlman from Brazil, Dr. David S. S. S. Mr. Cyril Spencer, chairman of the TAU Trust in Great Britain, and Mrs. Spencer, from England; Mr. Herman Kallion, president of the Norwegian Friends of TAU; Mrs. Ite Bryn from Switzerland; and Mr. Peter C. and Mr. Stuart Colton from the U.S.A., for the annual meeting of the board of governors of Tel Aviv University; and the following for the board meeting and special ceremonies: Mr. and Mrs. Albert Cuervo (Argentina), for the dedication of the Albert and Elba Cuervo Industrial Engineering Wing; Prof. P. Hugh Lloyd-Jones (England), to receive an honorary doctorate; and Mrs. Lloyd-Jones; Lady Cohen (England), for the dedication of the Cohen-Potter Family Swimming Pool; and the inauguration of the Shirley and Leslie Porter Chair of Literary Theory and Poetics; and Mr. Josef Buchmann from W. Germany for the inauguration of the Josef Buchmann Doctoral Fellowship Fund.

## Israeli hoopsters lose

Post Sports Staff  
Israel lost its fourth Olympic basketball qualifying game in a row last night, bowing to Greece, 120-95.  
This afternoon Israel plays West Germany, led by former Israeli national team coach Ralph Klein.

## HOME NEWS

## Shamir may rule today on Liberal placement

By SARAH HONIG  
Post Political Reporter  
TEL AVIV. — Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir may decide today on the placement of the Liberal and La'am candidates on the Likud Knesset slate, perhaps ending the long drawn-out wrangles in his political bloc.

Shamir was appointed arbitrator by both sides yesterday, after Herut and the Liberals again failed to reach agreement on their last points of disagreement. The Liberal central committee decided late Wednesday night to stay in the Likud and accept the compromise already reached with Herut in earlier rounds of talks.

The remaining problems centered on the placement of the last four Liberals on the Likud list. Although the sides did not agree yesterday, they were no more Liberal threats of leaving the Likud. Herut is warily waiting to see how the Liberals react to Shamir's decision, fearing their partners may yet pull another surprise.

Under the compromise accepted by the Liberals Wednesday, their party is to get 16 candidates out of the first 50 on the Likud list, two short of what it has in the present Knesset.

Herut proposed that in each group of 10 candidates, the Liberals get the third, sixth and ninth slots. The Liberals did not agree, but they did not make a counter proposal. The matter has gone to Shamir, but it is not expected that he will come up with a counter-offer which could totally upset the Likud apple-cart.

But the Liberals are much more militant about what is to happen to those of their candidates between the 40th and 50th slots. Here they were given four rather than three

places. Herut proposed that the Liberals get the 41st, 46th, 47th and 49th slots. The Liberals demand the 41st, 45th, 47th and 48th slots.

Some Liberal sources said yesterday that one of the reasons for Liberal leader Yitzhak Moda'i's frequent about-faces during the recent rounds of negotiations with Herut was his realization that he would get only the third and not the second slot on the Likud list. His predecessor at the Liberal helm, the late Simcha Ehrlich, stood second.

Meanwhile, the Liberal Party is not showing any signs of breaking up, as anticipated in some quarters. The anti-Herut wing, led by Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat, is not about to leave the Likud. They said they would have done so had there been a decision on a pre-elections merger with Herut.

Now that the worst is over with the Liberals, from Herut's point of view, some Herut members are clamoring for a cutback in La'am representation. La'am now has four candidates in the first 50 on the Likud list. The demand is that La'am be reduced to three.

However, La'am MK Ehud Olmert said no official word of any such intention had come to this small faction. He doubts that enough time remains for negotiations with La'am since the lists of candidates must be in by May 31. Olmert said La'am is a very different case from the Liberals. The four-member faction has never been a trouble-maker for the Liberals. La'am has asked to be merged completely with Herut and, unlike the Liberals, La'am does not entertain alternative coalition ideas with any other party. "We are more Herutniks than Herut members," Olmert said.

## Supreme Court orders release of Arab

Salah Baransi, a director of a Palestinian cultural centre in Taibe, was yesterday released by the police, following an order by the Supreme Court.

Baransi, who was arrested by police on May 17 when he got off a plane from London at Ben-Gurion Airport, spent 10 years in prison between 1969 and 1979 for security offences.

Following his arrest, the Petah Tikva Magistrates Court ordered him remanded in custody for eight days after police said he was suspected of meeting enemy agents in Europe.

Baransi appealed to the Tel Aviv District Court, which ordered him

released. The state appealed to the Supreme Court, but Justice Shlomo Levin ordered Baransi freed.

Levin ruled that there was no cause to hold him on the basis of the evidence submitted to the court. "There is no justification in keeping Baransi in custody only in the hope that he will break down and recant on the version (of events) he gave his interrogators," ruled Levin.

The representative of the state prosecutor argued that Baransi had met senior PLO officials while in Europe. Baransi's lawyer, Amnon Zikhroni, contended that the High Court of Justice has ruled that mere meetings with PLO officials abroad are not against the law. (Itim.)

## OFFICERS CHARGED

(Continued from Page One)

Hirbawi to Tawil's house after the bombs placed in Shak'a's and Ramallah mayor Karim Khalaf's cars had exploded. He did not warn him about the device planted in the earth beside the garage, it is alleged.

Prosecutor, Uzi Hasson quoted from Hirbawi's statement in which he says that the officer, R.G., did not warn him, but appeared tense and nervous. "At that time Hirbawi could still see," Hasson said.

From the charges filed on Wednesday it emerges that suspects Nos. 22 and 25 accompanied by a third unnamed person are alleged to have planted the bomb in Shak'a's car, and suspects Nos. 23 and 24, also accompanied by another unnamed person, planted the bombs in Khalaf's car and outside Tawil's house.

Israeli investigators have reportedly been sent to the U.S. to question Rappaport, who is suspected of having been involved in the attempt on Shak'a. There has apparently been no contact with American officials to bring about his return.

Levinger said on his release from

the Russian Compound police lock-up yesterday afternoon that the police investigation against him had been completed. But it is still not clear whether charges will be brought against him and why he has only been released on bail.

"I hope that the trial and the atmosphere in advance of it will improve the security situation in the area," Levinger said, "so that no Arab will raise his hand, or his leg, or his rock or his knife against any Jewish resident of the area."

The 27 men in custody are now being allowed to receive visitors in the courtyard of the lock-up, and are enjoying special treatment from the police. None was brought to court handcuffed, as is customary in such cases.

An unnamed member of Hirbawi's family last night reacted to the news about the indictments against the suspected Jewish underground members by saying: "We were shocked to hear that an IDF officer (among those charged) stood aside without intervening as police assisted Suleiman Hirbawi handle the bomb in the garage of the mayor of El-Bireh.

## IS200,000 bail for suspect in illegal car imports

TEL AVIV (Itim). — A man suspected of illegally acquiring duty-free luxury cars was yesterday freed on IS200,000 bail by the Tel Aviv Magistrates Court.

A police representative told the

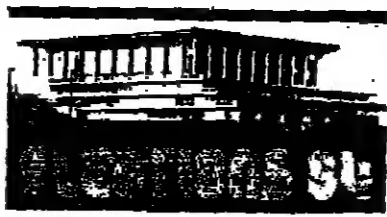
court the suspect, Arye Halpern, has used six different passports to import five cars without paying duty by posing as a tourist. He has cheated the tax authorities of IS23 million in import duties, the police representative said.

Halpern is also suspected of submitting false claims to insurance companies concerning two vehicles and of bribing officials.

The police did not oppose Halpern's release on bail because he is receiving medical treatment in hospital, although their investigation is still unfinished.

Judge Binyamin Kohen ordered that Halpern remain under house arrest after he is released from the hospital.

FUNDS. — The Knesset Finance Committee yesterday approved the Israel Broadcasting Authority's 1984 budget of IS8.4b.



## 'Mystery' TV crew films conference tour

By AVI TEMKIN  
Post Economic Reporter

A TV crew from the company being used by the Likud for its election campaign yesterday spent time filming a visit by participants of the Jerusalem Economic Conference to the West Bank town of Ariel.

The tour was one of 12 organized for the foreign participants of the conference and was poorly attended. Only eight businessmen joined, although it was personally guided by Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad, who is building a house in the town.

No one would officially confirm that the crew was working for the Likud campaign. The Likud promised before the conference that the gathering would not be used for political purposes.

## Atzmaut calls for abolition of income tax

TEL AVIV. — Israel can be the Japan of the Middle East, but the Likud and the Alignment are more likely to turn it into a police state, Ezra Sohar, head of the Atzmaut (Independence) Movement, said at a press conference here yesterday. "Both the Likud and the Alignment aim to lower the standard of living," he said. The real solution is to increase production by eliminating income tax, thus encouraging investment and economic growth, he said.

Under an Atzmaut government, people will pay taxes on everything they purchase, he said. Income tax only brings in a small percentage of the government's revenue, he said.

Sohar wants a free economy with as little government intervention as possible.

## Top Yahad Party post goes to Avraham

Post Political Correspondent

TEL AVIV. — Aluf (res.) Avraham Tamir, former national security adviser to three defence ministers, yesterday became secretary-general of Yahad, the new party of his former boss Ezer Weizman. He will also head the party's information campaign.

It is understood that Weizman will wait until Tuesday's deadline before he unveils Yahad's list of Knesset candidates.



A cassowary chick nestles in the palm of Ronny, a keeper at the Jerusalem Biblical Zoo, shortly after it hatched yesterday. (Yitzhak Elhanan, Scoop 80)

## Saar missile boat 'still years away'

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The Saar-S missile boat which U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger recently reported as being jointly developed with Israel is still years away, Shlomo Erel, chairman of the Israel Shipyard said last night.

The boat represents a "new concept" in this type of fighting ship, he said. The initial design is being carried out by American experts, with assistance from the Haifa yard, he said.

## Government seeks reversal of court ruling on Optalgin

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The state attorney's office will petition the High Court of Justice today to cancel a restraining order prohibiting the Health Ministry from declaring the pain-killer Optalgin a prescription-only drug.

The restraining order had been requested by the pharmaceutical company Teva, makers of the widely-used analgesic, after the Health Ministry last week declared Optalgin a dangerous drug.

BIRTHDAY. — The Meir Shifeya youth village and agricultural school northeast of Zichron Ya'acov yesterday celebrated its 60th anniversary.

## Ezra Danin dies at 82

Ezra Danin, the head of Arab intelligence in the Hagana and the foreign minister's adviser on Arab and Middle Eastern affairs until the 1970s, died yesterday. He was 82. His funeral leaves at 10:30 this morning from the Magen David Adom station in Hadera for burial in the old cemetery in the city.

Danin was born in Jaffa in 1902. His mother, Rahel, was the daughter of Yehoshua Yellin, one of the Yishuv's earliest pioneers and builder of Jewish West Jerusalem. His grandmother, Sarah Yehuda, was a member of a prominent Iraqi-Jewish family which settled in Jerusalem in the middle of the last century. His father, Yehzekel Danin (Schnowolski), was born in Bialystok and settled here in 1886. Yehzekel was the pioneer of light industry in this country and a promoter of Hebrew education. In 1906, he joined the Abuzat Bayit group which founded Tel Aviv three years later.

Ezra was six when his father built a house surrounded by a large garden at what is today the city's busiest intersection - Rehov Herzl, corner Lilienblum. His younger brother, Aharon, was one of the first children born in Tel Aviv in 1910. He had nine other brothers and sisters.

He graduated from the Beit Hasefer Tichon Lemishar (commercial high school) of which his father was a founder. For a short time, he was a public official, but the spirit of idealism, pride and creation led him to join halutzim (pioneers) settling on the land.

Ezra became a pupil at the Mikve Yisrael agricultural school and then found work with Jewish farmers. He also enrolled in the University of California's correspondence courses to deepen his knowledge of agriculture, particularly of citrus growing, in which he later became active.



Less well-known than his agricultural activities, though none the less important, were his security endeavors. He was one of the veteran members of Hagana valued for his knowledge of Arabic and local conditions. His family was friendly with Emir Abdullah of Transjordan and had many friends among Arab dignitaries. During the 1929 riots, Arab saved his father's life.

During the 1936-1939 Arab rebellion, Danin persuaded many Arabs to join anti-terror forces.

During his long years of work in Hagana and the Jewish Agency's political department, Danin made many visits to Emir Abdullah, grand-father of King Hussein. On his last trip on May 10-11, 1949, Danin accompanied Golda Meir (then Myerson) in the vain hope to persuade the Arab ruler to remain neutral in the coming conflict.

Last year, he was awarded an honorary doctorate by the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot.

Danin spent his last years writing his autobiography which is about to be published. (A.Z.)

## Nobel letter to Chernenko on Sakharov

OSLO (Reuters). — The Norwegian Nobel Peace Prize committee said it sent a letter to Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko yesterday asking him to free dissident Andrei Sakharov and his wife, Yelena Bonner.

Jakob Sverdrup, director of the institute, said it was the first time the committee had defended one of its laureates. Sakharov, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1975, has been exiled to Gorky, some 500 kilometers east of Moscow, where he is on hunger strike to press authorities to allow him, also now said to be fasting, to have medical treatment in the West.

In its letter yesterday, the committee said it was "concerned and alarmed" at what was happening to the Sakharovs and felt it was its duty "in this special situation" to ask Chernenko to let them leave the Soviet Union if they wished.

to Gorky, some 500 kilometers east of Moscow, where he is on hunger strike to press authorities to allow him, also now said to be fasting, to have medical treatment in the West. In its letter yesterday, the committee said it was "concerned and alarmed" at what was happening to the Sakharovs and felt it was its duty "in this special situation" to ask Chernenko to let them leave the Soviet Union if they wished.

Our dear  
**THEA BUKI-PLESSNER**  
is no more.  
She bequeathed her body to science.

Bental, Keren and  
Elkana Families

The United Israel Appeal of Canada Inc.  
expresses deep regret at the passing of a  
devoted Zionist

**SAMUEL JACOBSON**  
of Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

The World Family  
of  
United Israel Appeal — Keren Heyesod  
deeply mourns the passing of

**JACOBO GHITIS**  
who served with devotion as  
National Chairman of K.H. in Italy  
Member of Jewish Agency Board of Governors  
Member of Keren Heyesod World Board of Trustees  
We extend heartfelt condolences to Esther, and the entire family.  
The funeral will take place today at 12 noon at Kiryat Shaul Cemetery, Tel Aviv.  
Transportation will leave from the Mann Auditorium plaza, Tel Aviv, at 11.15 a.m.

Dr. Avraham Avi-Hai  
World Chairman

Surrounded by his loving family  
**JACOB GHITIS**  
Milan—Tel Aviv  
has peacefully passed away. His example will  
live indelibly in our hearts forever.

The funeral will take place today, Friday, May 25, 1984, at 12 noon at the Kiryat Shaul Cemetery.  
Transportation will leave at 11.15 a.m. from the Mann Auditorium plaza, Tel Aviv.  
Shiva at the apartment of the deceased, 73 Gordon St., Tel Aviv.

The Family

The unveiling of the tombstone of  
**LEON MAIERSDORF**  
of Belgium will take place on Tuesday, May 29,  
at 9 a.m., at the Har Hamenuhot Cemetery  
in Jerusalem.  
We will meet at the entrance to the cemetery  
at 8.45 a.m.  
Yvonne Maierdorf

With deep sorrow, we announce the sudden passing on  
Thursday, May 24, 1984 (Iyar 22) of our beloved  
**Rabbi ABRAHAM ROSENFELD** ז"ל  
formerly of Finchley, London, and Wellington, New Zealand  
Mourning by:  
his wife, Miriam  
his son, Lionel (Yeheskel); his daughter, Susan;  
his brother, Joseph;  
his grandchildren and all the family  
Shiva at 3/4 Mapu St., Jerusalem.

On the fifth anniversary of death  
of our beloved  
**David Herschel TARSHANSKY** ז"ל  
We will meet at his grave in the Mount of Olives Cemetery on Yom  
Yerushalaim (28 Iyar), May 30, 1984, at 9.00 a.m.  
A memorial meeting will take place in our home, 65 Mendes Street  
Kiryat Kinnitz, Ramat Gan, on Sunday, evening, June 3, 1984, at  
8.30 p.m.  
Naomi and Isaac Tarshansky  
Moss Tarshansky  
Pearl Tarshansky

We mourn the death of  
**Melie Overweg HEKSCHER**  
Noordwijk Holland  
Wijler Family  
Israel

We join Vivien Sagee and her family  
in mourning the death of her beloved husband  
**EDWARD A. WAUGHMAN**  
Kibbutz Hazorea

In deep sorrow we announce the passing of  
**CHAIM SCHREIBER** ז"ל  
The funeral and shiva took place last week in London.  
Mourning by his wife, Sara  
Children — Ruth, Judith and David  
and grandchildren

Welcome home and  
Congratulations to  
**Prof. ALEX RUSSELL**  
on his election as  
President of the International College of Pediatrics  
The Gicelter Family  
**Israel Center**  
Established in memory of Bernhard and Sara Falk  
ברוך והנאמן  
The Board of Directors and Staff of the Israel Center  
extend a hearty welcome to  
**Mr. and Mrs. GEORGE FALK**  
Founders of the Israel Center



# HOME NEWS

## Water cuts may hit the public on Sunday

By YITZHAK OKED  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

**TEL AVIV.** — Some of the public may suffer water shortages starting Sunday because the Treasury has apparently not made good its promise of last Tuesday to give the Mekorot national water company \$700 million.

The company owes this sum to the Electric Corporation, which yesterday cut off power to further Mekorot installations, bringing to 10 the number of Mekorot facilities so far shut down.

The corporation today plans to make further power cuts to Mekorot, but it is believed that the public will begin to feel the cuts on Sunday. Mekorot general manager Zeev Ashkenazi told *The Jerusalem Post* that the Finance Ministry owes Mekorot over \$1 billion. Because of this, Mekorot does not have money to pay its electric bill, he said.

Corporation spokesman Avri Raviv told *The Post* that Mekorot had not paid its debt. He said that Mekorot most likely banked on the fact that the EC felt it had a responsibility to the public and would not cut off the power to its installations. Raviv said that the EC would now have to take much stronger measures.

## Arab intellectuals unhelpful, says Namir

By LEA LEVAVI  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

**TEL AVIV.** — Arab intellectuals refuse to cooperate with Jews who want to improve Arab education in Israel, Ora Namir, chairman of the Knesset Education Committee, said during a debate on the problems of Arab students organized by the Tel Aviv University student union yesterday.

Namir said some Arab students invited to appear before her committee did not want to come, and others have failed to provide documentation of their complaints to facilitate further discussion on how problems can be solved.

Majid Elhaj, director of education in Shafaram, denied this vigorously, saying the delays in setting up meetings or submitting documents were purely technical. Along with Arab students from the audience, he refused to let the Alignment MK succeed in her attempt to distinguish between the Education Ministry

(which she criticized for not doing enough to further Arab education) and her own efforts to bring about improvements. The problems didn't start with the Likud government, the Arabs reminded her.

The Arab students complained that only 30 places in Tel Aviv University student dormitories are set aside for them. The rest of the Arab students have difficulties renting apartments in Tel Aviv because landlords are reluctant to have them as tenants, they said. There should be a quota system, they said, but there should be criteria for both Jewish and Arab students based on economic status, family size and distance of the student's home from the university.

There also complaints about insufficient scholarship aid for Arab students and other areas of alleged discrimination. Namir urged the students to give her a written list of the problems and she promised to approach university officials in search of solutions.

## Picketing pupils suspend their sit-in

**TEL AVIV.** — The ninth-graders from the Ironi Yod Gimmel high school in the Hatikva Quarter, who had been staging a sit-in outside the president's residence in Jerusalem since Wednesday morning in protest against plans to close their school, returned home yesterday after officials of the President's office and the Prime Minister's Office promised to look into the problem.

Nisan Limor, head of the President's office, and Mattityahu

Shmuelovitz, director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, convinced the children to go home and to give them until noon on Sunday to study the problem. The Tel Aviv municipality wants to close the school because its population is dwindling and its educational level is low. The parents and children claim there is nothing wrong with the educational level, and demand that children from North Tel Aviv be brought to their school instead of them having to go to the Zeitlin School in North Tel Aviv.

If they do not receive a satisfactory answer on Sunday, the children say they will be back outside Beit Hanassi with their sleeping bags, starting Monday morning.

## Transport Ministry gets new director-general

Baruch Levy yesterday took over as director-general of the Transport Ministry at a ceremony held in the office of Minister Haim Corfu. Levy succeeds Uzi Landau, who is on the Likud list for the Knesset elections.

## Burg letter shocks Petah Tikva officials

By ROY ISACOWITZ  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

**PETAH TIKVA.** — Mayor Dov Tavori will meet with the municipality's legal advisers today to discuss Interior Minister Yosef Burg's decision this week not to approve the controversial amendment to a municipal bylaw permitting certain business establishments to operate on the Sabbath and other Jewish holy days.

The amendment, which required Interior Ministry ratification, authorizes the mayor to issue licences to cinemas and cafes to operate outside regular business hours.

Senior municipality sources said

yesterday that they were shocked by the tone and content of Burg's recent letter to Tavori, informing him of the decision not to approve the amendment. "The letter did not deal seriously with the issues, but introduced extraneous elements, such as the minister's own religious beliefs, into the matter," one source said.

The sources would not predict what steps the municipality will take, but pointed out that the Interior Ministry has no jurisdiction over private businesses. They can continue to operate because no authority can force a local council to enforce its own bylaws.

A Petah Tikva magistrate yesterday

deferred a decision on a request for an injunction closing the Heichal Cinema on Friday night. The injunction was requested by members of a family living next door to the cinema who complain of the noise. The magistrate's decision will be made after court officials visit the family's apartment to check on the noise level. Three private petitions for show-cause orders, which support the municipality's stand on the matter of the Heichal Cinema, are now pending before the High Court of Justice.

The cinema is expected to be opened tonight and tempers are running high in the city.

## Ship sails off while bureaucrats dither

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

**HAIFA.** — The Israel Shipyard, whose 850 workers suffer from chronic unemployment, yesterday lost a ship maintenance job, because of bureaucratic indecision.

The Zim shipping company had planned to put its big container ship, Zim New York, into the yard for a routine check-up and maintenance and gave a fortnight's notice.

When the ship arrived here early this week, the port pilots announced they would take her into the narrow shipyard basin only if the port management and Transport Ministry freed them of responsibility in case of a mishap. The port agreed, but as

the ministry procrastinated, Zim ordered the ship to leave for Piraeus and have the job done there.

After it left, the parties prevailed on Zim to reconsider "and despite the expense involved, we ordered it to turn around and return to Haifa," the company spokesman told *The Jerusalem Post*.

But until yesterday morning, the ministry's decision had not yet been received and Zim ordered the ship to sail again.

The spokesman said Zim would try to have the job done in Haifa when the ship returns from its 90-day run. Otherwise, the job will be done abroad.

## Tourism Ministry not closing Cairo office

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Tourism Ministry yesterday strenuously denied that it is considering closing the Israel Government Tourist Office in Cairo.

The report, which appeared in the morning daily *Ha'aretz*, is entirely unfounded, Tourism Ministry spokeswoman Dvora Ganani told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday. She added that at no time had the ministry ever considered such a move.

Evidently, the report was based upon the fact that the head of the tourism office, hotelier Morris Casouto, is due to complete his tour of duty at the end of the month. Cas-

souto had originally agreed to serve in a voluntary capacity as head of the Cairo office until the end of March, but agreed to the extra two months at the behest of Tourism Minister Avraham Shari.

It is common knowledge that the ministry is disappointed with the virtual absence of Egyptian tourists in Israel, despite the continued flow in the other direction. But, nonetheless, the ministry views the establishment of the Cairo office as a great accomplishment. The number of non-Egyptian tourists coming via Egypt has been steadily growing.

## 84-year-old man gets cotton-growing prize

**TEL AVIV (Itim).** — An 84-year-old man, Leib Weizmann, yesterday received one of the seven \$1,500 prizes awarded annually for excellence in growing cotton and vegetables. The prizes — five for cotton and two for vegetables — were given by the Sam Hamburg Fund which was set up in 1977 by the Vegetable Marketing Board.

Weizmann is one of the country's veteran cotton growers.

The other prize winners for cotton growing are: Yisrael Kanobilewitz of Moshav Kommuniut, Eitan Sela and the team of agricultural instructors in Kibbutz Tzora, Gad Fishler for his research on Israeli strains of cotton, and Hanan Pechter who heads the cotton department in the Agriculture Ministry.

The two winners in the vegetable-growing category are: Meir Ben-Shefer of Moshav Rishpon, and the team in Moshav Moledet growing tomatoes for industry.

The late Sam Hamburg was a

pioneer of cotton growing in Israel.

## Ambulance for Marjayoun

**KIRYAT SHMONA.** — The Christian Broadcasting Network in Southern Lebanon yesterday donated an ambulance and medical equipment worth \$50,000 to the Marjayoun hospital.

## Health funds must treat drug addicts, Modan says

By D'VORA BEN SHAUL  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The order making the health funds responsible for the treatment of drug addicts will not be rescinded, Health Ministry Director-General Prof. Baruch Modan insisted yesterday.

Six weeks ago, Modan notified the health funds and the social welfare services that as of June 1 health fund doctors would be obliged to accept for treatment addicts who wish to undergo voluntary withdrawal and to provide them with Adulian, the narcotic substitute used to prevent the worst withdrawal symptoms.

The management of Histadrut's Kupat Holim Klalit health fund however has said that it will not provide this service and in this they are backed by Raya Retig, secretary general of the social services workers organization.

In a radio interview yesterday, Retig objected to Modan's plan to have treatment handled by the health funds instead of by special narcotics treatment centres, saying that the health funds are not able to provide the variety of supportive services needed.

The recurring basic argument, however, is the Health Ministry's contention that addiction is an illness

and should be treated by the family doctor. Kupat Holim holds that it is not an illness but a social deviation and therefore not their concern.

David Ridge adds:

Eli Lawental, head of the Kupat Holim's drug abuse clinic in Haifa, described the Modan ruling as a recipe for disaster.

The system would be open to abuse by criminal elements, while genuine addicts would not receive proper treatment, he said.

Lawental, a member of the national forum of managers of drug abuse centres, said the treatment of drug addicts requires a combination of specialties to deal with biological, psychological and sociological problems.

"With all due respect to doctors in the family clinics, they do not have the specialist knowledge to handle such cases. Similarly, they would not be able to differentiate between genuine addicts and drug pushers. The pushers, under this system, would be able to pose as addicts and get drugs on prescription which they could then sell on the black market," he said.

Lawental said the four existing drug abuse clinics around the country should be expanded.

## AIDS immunization hormone tested

By D'VORA BEN SHAUL  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

A simple blood test for the early detection of breast cancer and a hormone that may produce immunization to AIDS were topics of demonstration and discussion at a conference on advances in medical research at Beilinson Hospital in Petah Tikva this week.

Prof. Haya Meroz of the Rogoff Institute at Beilinson showed colleagues how specific antibodies against a variant protein present in persons with breast cancer can be used to detect the disease in its earliest stages.

Meroz said that the test will be available for routine use in women's check-ups within a year. This is of importance because breast cancers may develop for several years before

they produce a lump big enough to be detected.

Dr. Batya Shochet, working with Prof. Nathan Trainin of the Weizmann Institute, showed data that indicates that a hormone produced by the thymus gland may immunize cells against the virus that produced AIDS, the mysterious failure of the body's immune system which has been responsible in the past few years for the deaths of more than 1,500 people, principally male homosexuals, narcotic addicts, persons of Haitian origin and hemophiliacs.

In *in vitro* (test tube) studies the hormone showed a powerful effect on the cells, rendering them immune to the virus. Plans to test the material *in vivo* (in living organisms) are underway.

## Bar-Ilan students elect Likud council

Jerusalem Post Reporter

**RAMAT GAN.** — The Likud won a resounding victory in this week's Bar-Ilan University student elections, according to results announced yesterday.

Yehudah, the list supported by the Likud and National Labour Federation, received 16 of the 24 seats on the Student Association council, and Etgar, supported by the Likud, received another six seats.

Barak, the list which claimed to be supported by the National Religious Party but whose opponents said was also supported by the Alignment, won two seats. There was no Alignment-affiliated list. Bar-Ilan is a university with an Orthodox-religious focus.

The new chairman of the association is Avi Elmaliah, who got 950 of the 2,400 votes. Elmaliah, 24, was born in Morocco, came to Israel at age 3, served as a lieutenant in the paratroopers and is now a second-year student of economics and political science.

## Two charged in homosexual beating, robbery

**TEL AVIV (Itim).** — Two Gaza men were charged yesterday with beating and robbing a reserve army captain on active duty during a homosexual encounter two weeks ago.

Jihad al-Ahl and Adal Almurabi, both 22, were accused in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday of having hit, kicked and threatened the officer with a knife after they had met at a local spot frequented by homosexuals and continued on in the victim's car to a citrus grove near Or Yehuda. During the incident, the accused allegedly said they were terrorists belonging to the Fatah arm of the PLO.

After binding and gagging the officer, according to the charges, the two took \$55,000 as well as the keys to his car, in which they fled the scene.

Ahl, who drove the officer's car away from the grove, was also charged with driving without a licence.

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May 25, 1984-June 2, 1984

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## Soviets use 'liquid fire' on Afghans

LONDON (AP). — Soviet fighter-bombers are dropping "liquid fire" bombs on Moslem guerrillas in Afghanistan and powerful new "fuel-air explosives" weapons that kill anyone within a 4-kilometre radius with shock waves, *Jane's Defence Weekly* reported on Wednesday.

The magazine, issued by the authoritative Jane's Publications, said the Soviets have been using the new weapons since last summer in eastern Afghanistan in a major battle-field testing programme.

The "fuel-air explosive" bombs detonate while in the air, releasing a volatile chemical cloud about 15 metres in diameter that is detonated by a second charge, causing lethal shock waves.

British weapons specialists contacted by the Associated Press said the weapons being used against the lightly armed guerrillas could be used with devastating effect against western forces, air bases and even cities.

Jane's said the "liquid fire" bombs contain a black tar-like substance. The bomb splits in the air, showering

large blobs of the substances that can lie on the ground for months.

But when they are stepped on, the blobs burst into flames, emitting "sickening fumes" and cannot be extinguished until the blobs burn out.

"Trucks which have driven over the droplets have burned out completely as a result," said the report, written by Yossef Bodansky, a consultant to the U.S. Defence and State Departments.

The Soviets have used the "liquid fire" weapons to "effectively block axes of transportation for vehicles for long periods," the article said.

The dark blobs can easily be spotted in Afghanistan's dirt roads. But Jane's noted: "In developed countries, such as Western Europe, the black droplets would be invisible against asphalt and paved roads or runways."

"In a contemporary mechanized war, their potential effectiveness is much higher... The effects that such droplets could have on a fully loaded aircraft at one of NATO's air bases is obvious."

The report came as the Soviets continued a major offensive in the Panjshir Valley region against the guerrillas, with large numbers of the mountain fighters reported bottled up and under sustained air and ground attack.

Meanwhile, an estimated 500,000 Afghans are starving or malnourished and there is a threat of widespread famine as the Soviet offensive aggravates slumping food production, a British researcher said on Wednesday.

Researchers who entered Afghanistan without the Kabul government's knowledge examined more than 5,000 children, anthropologist Frances D'Souza said in a British government-financed study which was due to be released here yesterday.

She said nearly two-thirds of the children were either underfed or facing malnutrition.

The survey urges the UN to channel relief to Afghans through guerrilla movements in place in the hardest-hit areas.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## 14 Indian pilgrims killed in bus-truck collision

NEW DELHI (AP). — A tourist bus carrying pilgrims collided with a truck in southern India yesterday, killing 14 people and injuring 37 others, police said.

The accident occurred at a village near Madras. Police said the victims were on their way to a temple in a nearby town.

## Moroccan Moslem fundamentalist jailed for defamation

RABAT (Reuters). — A Moroccan Moslem fundamentalist leader was jailed for two years by a court near Rabat yesterday for criticizing official institutions.

Abdellah Yacine, 56, had been held since December 29 for publishing a weekly called al Sobh (Dawn) which accused the administration of anti-Islamic practices. The newspaper has since been banned.

Yacine was charged with insulting and defaming public administration and institutions and threatening public order. He was also fined 500 dirhams (\$57) by the court in Sale.

His eight lawyers said they would lodge an appeal.

## Athens bomb shatters windows of U.S. Citibank branch

ATHENS (AP). — A homemade bomb exploded early yesterday outside branch offices of U.S. Citibank in a residential suburb of the Greek capital, causing some damage but no injuries, police said.

"It was a powerful bomb containing a lot of dynamite," Athens police chief Manolis Bosniak told reporters at the scene. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the blast.

The explosion shattered windows of the Pattissia Citibank office and nearby apartment buildings, he said.

## South African rebels claim responsibility for mine blast

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP). — The black nationalist African National Congress has claimed responsibility for a bomb blast that damaged offices at a gold mine in South Africa.

The ANC claim was made Wednesday night on a regular broadcast of "Radio Freedom," which transmits from the Ethiopian capital.

No one was injured in the explosion, which caused damage estimated at \$79,000 at the Anglo-American Corp. mine.

The ANC is made up of South Africans dedicated to overthrowing South Africa's white minority government.

## West German police avert illegal sale of tanks

HAMBURG (Reuters). — West German police arrested two Germans, an Iranian and an American for attempting to sell 250 U.S. M-48 tanks, a spokesman for the state prosecutor's office said here yesterday.

The spokesman did not give any details about Wednesday's arrests, but a report yesterday in the tabloid *Bild* said the tanks were intended for shipment to Iran. It is against West German law to sell arms and ammunition to crisis areas.

## Strikers shut down France's entire rail system

PARIS (AP). — France's state-owned railroad system was virtually paralyzed yesterday by a nationwide 48-hour strike called by all railroad unions to protest a proposed new schedule of working hours.

The cause of the dispute was the administration's plan for adapting work schedules to the newly introduced 35-hour week. The administration wants to spread the reduction piecemeal across the entire week, while the workers want an additional half-day off per week.

## UK protests arrest of three more Britons in Libya

LONDON (Reuters). — The British government yesterday complained that Libya had arrested three more Britons and is holding them incommunicado.

The Foreign Office said Libya is not allowing consular access to the men and is refusing to say why they were detained. A spokesman said the three men were picked up between May 13 and 15, but declined to give any more details.

The spokesman said the Libyans are also still denying access to two other Britons detained on April 17, within hours of police laying siege to the Libyan Embassy in London, after a policewoman was shot dead during a demonstration.

## Cairo's puppet theatre goes up in smoke

CAIRO (Reuters). — Egypt's puppet theatre, a major attraction for thousands of children, was gutted by fire yesterday.

Eyewitnesses said the blaze damaged set decorations, curtains, scenes and other equipment, but most of the puppets were saved. Police are investigating.

The puppet theatre is close to the famous Cairo Opera which was destroyed by a huge fire in the early 1970s.

## British water facility blast kills nine, injures 30

LANCASTER, England (Reuters). — Nine people died and 35 were injured in a gas blast which wrecked an underground water treatment plant Wednesday night, police said yesterday. Twelve of the injured were suffering from serious burns.

Authorities said a build-up of gas appeared to have caused the blast which ripped through the Abbeystead plant, built into a forested cliffside 20 kilometres from Lancaster in northwest England.

Officials said sheets of flame struck a party of visitors being conducted around the plant, a show-place of water-treatment techniques.

## Five Salvadorans convicted of killing U.S. nuns

ZACATECOLUCA, El Salvador (AP). — A five-member jury returned guilty verdicts yesterday on all counts against five former National Guardsmen accused of murdering four American churchwomen in 1980.

The five — charged with aggravated homicide, aggravated destruction of property and theft — face a maximum sentence of 30 years in prison.

## Seven L.A. teachers arrested for child molesting

LOS ANGELES (Reuters). — Ninety-two additional charges of child molestation were filed yesterday against seven former schoolteachers, bringing the total charges to 207.

"We are alleging that all of the new acts took place by force or by threat of force," Deputy District Attorney Glenn Stevens told reporters. The prosecution alleges 42 children were abused.

They are to be arraigned in court today on the new charges, Stevens said, adding: "We have leads on other people who may be involved."

## Sports

## SOCCER PREVIEW

## Haifa likely to gain nod at the final whistle

By PAUL KOHN  
Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Maccabi Haifa are only 90 minutes away from their first league championship. They must simply beat lowly Ramat Amichai at their home Kiryat Eliezer pitch tomorrow afternoon to assure themselves of the title. A draw, however, may not suffice since Betar Jerusalem, who led the table for 18 consecutive weeks, are only one point in arrears. If Betar beat Shimshon in Jaffa and Haifa slips, then the miracle that Jerusalem fans are hoping for would have come to pass.

The game in the north could be a tougher affair than appears likely on paper. Amidar are equally keen for points in order to stave off relegation to second division football next season. The small Ramat Gan side held a 1-1 draw last weekend and a fortnight ago hammered three goals home past Netanya. Haim Mesika and Rahamin Shalom are in excellent mettle and the Haifa defence, which will need to watch them all the way as their forwards go all out for goals up front.

Betar fans will be following with much rapt attention the unfolding events in Haifa as the performance of their erstwhile heroes who now know that only a win would still give them a chance of lifting the trophy that had for so long looked destined to travel up to the capital for the first time.

The season has been cleaved into two clear parts. Betar were outstanding in the first half, amassing points like a pinball addict even though most of their matches were then played outside Jerusalem because of a disciplinary measure.

The second half has belonged to Haifa who are in fact unbeaten since the halfway point of the season. Despite Jerusalem prayers, with Armeli, Mamman, Selektor, Rosen, and Maril all in flashing form, they must count as hot favourites going into the final hurdle.

At the other end of the table, crucial relegation games involve Be'er Sheva against Maccabi Tel Aviv, Yotam, and Maccabi Netanya.

The cars and eyes of Israel's soccer followers will be closely attuned to developments at the final whistle shortly before 7 p.m. tomorrow evening.

## Perkis making bid for French Open

Post Sports Staff

Shahar Perkis, Israel's No. 2 tennis player, had a fine win in the first qualifying round towards the French Open when he defeated the Indian player Srinivasan Vasudevan. Beginning nervously, the tall Haifa lad came back strongly to win 4-6, 6-2, 6-1 and needed two more victories to see himself into the first round draw proper. Only 16 qualifiers go in to the full draw of the Open, the first of this year's Grand Slam events, which begins on Monday.

In Dusseldorf, much-fancied Sweden stumbled to a surprise defeat against Italy in the World team tennis cup tournament where most of the top men players are competing prior to next week's French Open.

## Tigers tie record

NEW YORK (AP). — Lance Parrish's two-run homer in the seventh inning gave the Detroit Tigers a 4-2 victory over the California Angels and an American League record-tying 16th consecutive triumph on the road. That was the highlight of Wednesday's major league baseball action as the Tigers equalled the 1917 Washington Senators' mark and are within one of the major league record for most consecutive road wins, set by the 1916 New York Giants.

With the score tied 2-2, Barbaro Garbey led off the seventh with an infield single and moments later scored when Parrish lined his sixth Homer of the season over the left-field fence off reliever Frank Lacorte, 0-2. Dan Pety 7-1, held the Angels to five hits through seven innings, walking two, striking out five. Willie Hernandez finished up for his seventh save.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Houston 4, St. Louis 0; Chicago 3, Atlanta 1; San Francisco at New York — rain; San Diego 2, Montreal 1 (11 innings); Los Angeles 1, Philadelphia 0; Pittsburgh 7, Cincinnati 2.

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Baltimore 9, Oakland 5; Toronto 4, Minnesota 1; Cleveland 5, Boston 4; Texas 6, Milwaukee 1; Kansas City 1, Chicago 0; Detroit 4, California 2; New York 3, Seattle 0.

## Spurs triumph

LONDON (AP). — Tottenham Hotspur won the 1984 UEFA soccer cup late on Wednesday night, defeating defending champions Anderlecht 4-3 on penalty kicks after the 2nd leg match had finished 1-1 after extra time.

The hero of the London team was 21-year-old goalkeeper Tony Parks, who saved two Anderlecht spot kicks in a dramatic penalty shootout.

Tottenham's first European trophy since their 1972 UEFA Cup success was watched by a crowd of 46,258 at White Hart Lane.

The Swedes' team completely deserted their 31-year-old forward Baranowski and Glenn Olosson put the Indians into a winning 2-0 lead in the group match. The 21-year-old Baranowski must cope with a convincing 6-3 win over Henrik Sundstrom, 11 years his junior and one of the world's leading clay court players this year. Olosson then put behind him yesterday's disappointing performance against Czechoslovakia's Ivan Lendl in which he was only three games to lead Anders Jarryd 7-6 6-1.

Eight nations are competing in the event.

Top seed Chris Evert-Lloyd of the U.S. — No. 2 behind Martina Navratilova in Paris — had an easy passage into the third round of the Italian Women's Open, beating Switzerland's Christiane Jolissaint 6-2 6-3.

There was a surprise defeat for fourth seed Helena Sukova who went out to Yvonne Vermaak of South Africa, who won 6-0, 2-6, 6-2.

## Celtics through, Lakers not yet

BOSTON (AP). — Larry Bird led a balanced attack with 21 points as the Boston Celtics, gunning for their 15th National Basketball Association title, moved into the final round of the playoffs with a 115-108 victory over the Milwaukee Bucks. The Celtics led most of the way in the fifth game as they wrapped up the best-of-seven game Eastern Conference series 4-1.

Unsubstantiated rumors that Boston moved back from a 35-34 deficit after the first quarter to grab a 42-32 halftime lead. The Celtics cut the margin to 70-62 before Boston took command with a steady 13-point burst.

Marion Johnson led Milwaukee with 24 points, and Mike Dunleavy added 21, leading three three-point field goals. For Boston, Cedric Maxwell led 19 points, Parish 17, and Kevin McHale 15.

In California, Walter Davis scored 12 of his 27 points in the final quarter as the Phoenix Suns held off the Los Angeles Lakers 126-121 to force a sixth game in their series. The Lakers lead 3-2.

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## S. Africans, save for blacks, to vote in August elections

CAPE TOWN (AP). — A new parliament including separate chambers for South Africa's Asian and coloured (mixed-race) minorities will open September 18 after elections in August, the government said Wednesday.

Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning Chris Heunis said the new constitution creating the three-chamber parliament will take effect September 3, with an acting state president appointed that day.

In the following days, an electoral college made-up of members of the white, coloured and Asian chambers will be formed to elect a permanent state president.

As in the parliamentary cham-

bers, whites will outnumber the other two groups in the electoral college, ensuring the appointment of a white state president. The current prime minister, P.W. Botha, is virtually certain to take over the more powerful new position.

A president's council, with 50 white members, 25 coloured and 13 Asians, will be selected September 19. The council will act as arbitrator among the three chambers.

Militant coloured and Asian leaders have called for a boycott of the August election for the new parliamentary chambers, saying the system entrenches white rule and leaves out the blacks altogether.



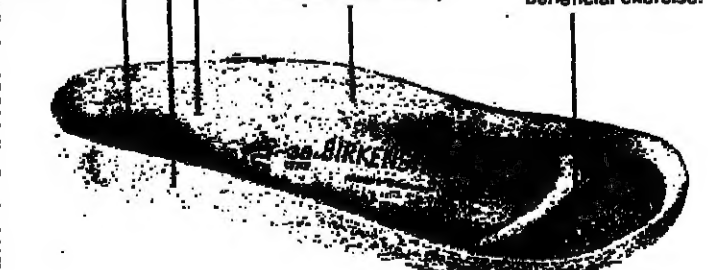
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- Netanya: Sport Spiegel, 1 Rehov Shear Ha'emek (basement), Tel. 053-33397.
- Hadera: Machon Ortopedi Midrach, 15 Rehov Rambam, Tel. 063-32732.
- Haifa: Loewi-Lestra Shoe Shop, 130 Sderot Hanassi, Tel. 04-82397, Sheinman Shoes, 15 Rehov Herzl, Tel. 04-862132.
- Jerusalem: Shaul Shoes, 8 Rehov Shmuel Hanagid (cor. Rehov Bezalel), Tel. 02-226578, Boutique La'ahot, Cial Centre, shop 210A (available in white only), Tel. 02-242848.

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# Decline and fall of the General Zionists

By MARK SEGAL / Post Political Correspondent

WITHOUT ANY official interment ceremonies we are witnessing the end of one of the historic movements in Zionism — the General Zionists. It matters little the kind of formal decision that the Liberal Party central committee took Wednesday night regarding the future of its relationship with Herut within the Likud framework. Nor does it really count whether a few of its displaced officeholders will seek new organization harbours elsewhere. Throughout the seven years of the Likud regime, we have seen how the self-seeking heirs of a great historic trend in Zionism have betrayed their heritage and dissipated their credibility for the sake of an oversized slice of power and patronage. They have squandered their way into the void as an independent political entity. Their party was only liberal in name and in the sense of handing out chunks of the action to its components. In Moshe Nissim it has given us the most illiberal justice minister in years who surprised even ex-premier Menachem Begin by his subservience to Herut.

AS THE YEARS elapsed, so has the Liberals' ideological baggage thinned out, as they clambered up the Revisionist trail. They abandoned their commitment to electoral reform years back, and easily jettisoned their General Zionist allegiance to traditional liberalism in civil liberties and religious legislation. The once-famous General Zionist moderation in foreign affairs and defence policies has since long been dumped, as they clung onto the Herut lifeline. They have for some time now lost any real *raison d'être* as an independent entity and in their new leader, Yitzhak Moda'i, they have the ideal vehicle for conveying them into the post-Begin Herut, due to his decades-old "special relationship" with Ariel Sharon.

INTERIOR MINISTER Yosef Burg once spoke of parties that only exist as letterheads and that description now certainly applies to the Liberals. For its true membership figures are unknown and there were sufficient anomalies in its last internal elections so as to raise questions in the public mind. As one of the few surviving General Zionists, Yitzhak Berman has put it: "The Liberals are certainly no longer the natural heirs of General Zionism, neither a Conservative nor a Liberal Party, as known elsewhere, but a co-operative society for handing out jobs and sinecures, and might be best described as the trailer clinging onto the Herut bandwagon." The last chairman but one of the party, Dr. Elimelech Rimalt, long lamented the disappearance of the last receptacle of General Zionism into the embrace of what is left of the Revisionists.

WHILE MODA'I and company kept the country on tenterhooks during the past week, Rimalt, who was one of the signatories of the 1961 Gahal agreement with Herut, welcomed the coming demise of his old party. "It is rotten to the core. The quicker they merge into Herut the better, and so leave the arena free for the emergence of a new centre party dedicated to Liberal ideas," he declares.

Berman and Rimalt are indeed among the few surviving General Zionists, along with another retired politician, S.Z. Abramov. They might have served as the midwives of a revived General Zionist body if their younger colleagues, who profess the same ideas, possessed their kind of integrity and drive. Other names mentioned as likely protagonists of a renewed Liberal entity have by their past actions, or rather inaction, indicated that they possess little if any stomach for the tough political fight. That certainly is the case with Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat, and ex-Ramat Gan mayor Israel Peled. While Knesset Speaker Menachem Savidor only discovered his party had lost its liberal soul the moment after he had been dropped from its list of candidates.

THERE WAS, after all, a recent moment of golden opportunity to launch a centre party between the time when Menachem Begin resigned the premiership and Yitzhak Shamir was sworn in as his successor. There are a number of versions why that opportunity was scotched — some of the Liberals claim that Ezer Weizman let them down after having turned hot and cold about launching a centre party while waiting for Herut to call him back to the fold. Berman confirmed that Savidor had let down the other members of the "gang of four" — Dan Tichon, Dror Zeigerman, and himself after he succumbed to Liberal ministers' blandishments. While yet others say that neither Tichon nor Zeigerman were for real. The former is said to be too involved in lobbying activity to risk being cut off from government patronage, while the latter is a creation of Jewish Agency Chairman Arye Dultzin, to whom he owes his comfortable job as head of the WZO students agency. So far Dultzin has never shown any real stomach for the political rough-and-tumble of Israeli politics, while he has been ogling on party dissenters against merging with Herut by cabling messages from abroad with questions, like "how could someone like myself who favours territorial compromise and religious pluralism cope in the united party?" Well, he has man-

aged to cope manfully with Herut's fundamentalism for years in his present job. The truth is that Dultzin does enjoy the organizational and financial resources to launch a new entity, as well as the freedom inherent in this being his last term as WZO chairman. What is unclear is whether he has the will to embark on such a difficult course.

HERUT WITHOUT Menachem Begin is as different a party as the Liberal Party headed by Moda'i and Nissim. It's an indication of what has happened to the quality of the political leadership to recall that the General Zionist movement was founded in 1931 at a conference in Basel by such luminaries as Stephen Wise, Louis Lipsky, and Menachem Ussishkin. Soon the first of its many amoebic-like splintering took place, with Chaim Weizmann heading one General Zionist list of delegates to the Zionist Congress, and Ussishkin another.

GENERAL ZIONISM took on organizational form in Eretz-Israel earlier still in 1922, involving such illustrious names as Ahad Ha'am and Meir Dizengoff. The more liberal wing of the movement combined in a coalition with David Ben-Gurion's Mapai together with Mizrahi which helped to mould the WZO and their political bases in the Yishuv into the instrument that brought about Jewish statehood. The two wings of the world movement became in Israel the General Zionist Party led by Peretz Bernstein, Israel Rokach, and Yosef Saphir, and the Progressive Party led by Pinhas Rosen. Their original motivation for splitting in two, back in 1935, over whether to become part of the Histadrut only vanished in 1961, when Dr. Rimalt persuaded his party to set up the General Zionist Workers faction in the Labour Federation. In the first Knesset, the Progressives had five seats, and the General Zionists, seven. While the former became an integral part of most Mapai/Labour coalitions, the latter stayed in the opposition. In the Second Knesset, the G.Z. won 20 seats, the Progressives dropped to four. Both served in B.G.'s new cabinet (1952-55). In the Third Knesset the Progressives stayed in the coalition with five MKs, the G.Z. dropped to 13 and stayed outside. In the Fourth Knesset (1959), the Progressives got six seats, while the G.Z. dwindled to eight. That was the last time the General Zionists ran on their own ticket. In 1961 they merged with the Progressives, calling the union the Liberal Party. They had trusted that Dr. Nahum Goldmann would be their leader, but he preferred the fleshpots of the Diaspora. That year they emerged from the Fifth Knesset elections with 17 MKs, and stayed in opposition.

However, the new format did not last long and four years later when Rimalt and Sapir resolved to found Gahal, the Progressives split away, forming the Independent Liberals. The ILP began their process of decline. In the Sixth Knesset they had five seats, in the Seventh Knesset — four; in the Eighth Knesset — four; in the Ninth Knesset — one MK, for the first time in opposition; in the Tenth Knesset elections they failed to make it, and for the Eleventh Knesset elections they opted for a safe place on the Labour Alignment list.

The General Zionists did, however, come together in the years of the National Unity Government — under Levi Eshkol (1967-68) and Golda Meir (1968-70). Gahal won 26 in the Sixth Knesset with the Liberals getting 12, the same ratio obtaining for the Seventh and Eighth Knesset elections. But with the *mahapach* in 1977 the Likud victory increased the Liberals' share until their unprecedented zenith of 18 seats in the Tenth Knesset. Interestingly, while their number of cabinet seats soared to six, their influence declined, largely as the result of the loss of the Finance Ministry by their leader, the late Simha Ehrlich, whose death has also left them without the first deputy premiership and the acting premiership. A prime reason for Ehrlich's fall was not only the failure of his economic policy but the intrigues of his party colleagues, principally Moda'i, who was the first member of the first Begin cabinet to break its collective discipline. Nonetheless, Ehrlich later made a minor comeback, largely because of his special relationship with Herut's chief. With his disappearance from the scene, rancour and suspicion have replaced the tea-drinking camaraderie that obtained between "Reb Menachem" and "Reb Simha."

AS EARLY as Ehrlich's time, on the eve of the 1981 elections, the Liberals handed over the prerogative of picking their minister to the Herut leader. Yet they never managed to retrieve the Treasury largely because the would-be candidate, Yitzhak Moda'i, was bitterly opposed by his peers, particularly Gideon Patt and Avraham Shafir. In their penchant for jugular-vein grabbing politics, the current Liberal front-bench truly are heirs of the General Zionist tradition. I remember well as a fledgling reporter in the late 50s, hearing bitter complaints from Israel Rokach and Shoshana Persitz at the way they had been so ill-used by Yosef Saphir, Haim Levanon and Yosef Serlin.

Some years later during a flight to

Paris I sat next to Serlin and heard from him a torrent of criticism against Saphir and Rimalt, among others. Years to come I was to witness Levanon being pushed out by Saphir and Ehrlich, who later unseated Rimalt. Not for nothing was the General Zionist roundabout compared to a musical comedy version in Yiddish of the "Borgia Family Saga" produced by Avraham Goldfaden.

Of course the big transformation took place when the players joined Menachem Begin's puppet theatre. One supposes that the dilemma facing the entire cast is that they cannot decide who will be the new puppeteer.

A major reason given for Herut insistence on a quick merger with the Liberals has been the bigger party's urgent need to get its collective hands on its partner's assets. When Gahal came into being, it was then described in the picaresque fashion as the common law union of a rough and tough young man from a proletarian neighbourhood with a well-endowed widow who offered him respectability and entry into society.

As things turned out the union never got beyond cohabitation, and now that the young man has matured

into solid bourgeois status and wants to stop living in sin, he finds it rather difficult to get his hands on the promised dowry.

LIKE EVERYONE else I was under the impression that the Liberal Party was a wealthy organization. Some investigative reporting confirmed that first impression was correct, but that many difficulties exist in the way of proving it. It appears that "Reb Simha" Ehrlich took the trouble some years back to register the party's assets in real estate and securities under the names of the special non-profit-making trusts. He did so after a serious financial crisis that beset the Liberal Party forced it to mortgage one of the six floors of its party head offices on Rehov Ibn-Gabriel.

He is said to have felt that a future party leader might wish to sell off the party's assets. When I asked party treasurer Zvi Renner, an old Ehrlich confidant, about the state of the party's assets, all he was willing to mention was its party headquarters.

Renner was being less than frank with me, nor did he mention the key role in controlling the party's estates of Ehrlich's best friend and party ally, millionaire Israel Sacharov, who preceded Renner as party

treasurer. But Sacharov is quite inaccessible on such matters. Nor should it be forgotten that a third key figure controls the strings of the party's finances, Arye Dultzin, an off-and-on Ehrlich ally.

It is difficult to know how much the party's real estate is worth. After all, the General Zionists were traditionally strong in local government. There are rumours about the juicy chunks of real estate the party has accumulated over the years of its control of such burgeoning urban areas as Tel Aviv, Ramat Gan, Netanya and Rehovot — to mention just a few General Zionist-Liberal strongholds.

I know for certain that the party owns, under another title, a promising piece of Tel Aviv property adjoining the Shekhem skyscraper on Rehov Ibn-Gabriel. That kind of possession must be duplicated many times over throughout the country, all under differing ownerships, but not in the party's explicit name.

ONE OPEN source of money is IS9 million per month coming under the law for the state financing of parties. That is under the watchful eye of the State Comptroller's office. That is not the case with the regular, if less publicized, cash flow from the Liber-

als' Workers faction's share in the Likud revenue from the Histadrut political levy.

Incidentally, eliciting details on this item turned out to be quite a detective story. Histadrut spokesman Shmuel Soler was his usual helpful self, but for some reason Histadrut Treasurer Natan Almoshino, one of Ahdut Ha'avoda's relics in the federation stonewalled when it came to letting me in on details of the political levy revenue of anyone, not only of the Liberals. You would think that Almoshino had something to hide.

I did recall, however, that 15 years ago the Histadrut Executive resolved that a fixed, if small percentage of all members' dues would be allocated to its constituent factions as a political levy. The money would be divided strictly according to the number of votes each party nets.

Thus, the Likud gets about 28 per cent of this revenue, of which about 3 per cent has been going to that even more fictional party, La'am, with the rest divided equally between Herut and the Liberals. The former's leadership grumbled that it does all the work and brings in all the votes but the Liberals get half the cash.

By my reckoning, the Liberal Workers faction gets from the Histadrut about IS48m.-IS50m. per annum. That tidy sum is transferred

to the coffers of the Liberal Workers, without the party having any say in the money's disposal. The party budget has no mention of the donations pouring in from abroad via various channels. They usually get registered in various funds not under party control. In former days, the General Zionists' Constructive Fund used to be the receptacle for the party's share of Zionist fund-raising abroad. The annual amount is today put at \$400,000.

The money is reportedly channelled to a trust fund named "Ofek" and then invested in securities and dollar-linked deposits.

While failing to pin down the names of those controlling these funds, I did unearth the information that the stocks and shares which the Liberal Party's offshoots have invested in the Tel Aviv stock exchange suffered losses of about IS60 million in the 1983 market crash.

That sum offers some insight into the actual value of the party's hidden assets.

The Likud still is in debt to the tune of IS62 million following last November's local government elections. The Liberal share of the debt amounts to some IS30 million.

The Likud will receive IS360 million under state financing of the elections, but that amount under law, cannot be applied to old debts.

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aged to cope manfully with Herut's fundamentalism for years in his present job. The truth is that Dulzin does enjoy the organizational and financial resources to launch a new entity, as well as the freedom inherent in this being his last term as WZO chairman. What is unclear is whether he has the will to embark on such a difficult course.

HERUT WITHOUT Menachem Begin is as different a party as the Liberal Party headed by Moda'i and Nissim. It's an indication of what has happened to the quality of the political leadership to recall that the General Zionist movement was founded in 1931 at a conference in Basel by such luminaries as Stephen Wise, Louis Lipsky, and Menachem Ussishkin. Soon the first of its many amebic-like splintering took place, with Chaim Weizmann heading one General Zionist list of delegates to the Zionist Congress, and Ussishkin another.

GENERAL ZIONISM took on organizational form in Eretz-Israel earlier still in 1922, involving such illustrious names as Ahad Ha'am and Meir Dizengoff. The more liberal wing of the movement combined in a coalition with David Ben-Gurion's Mapsi together with Mirachi which helped to mould the WZO and their political bases in the Yishuv into the instrument that brought about Jewish statehood. The two wings of the world movement became in Israel the General Zionist Party led by Peretz Bernstein, Israel Rokach, and Yosef Saphir, and the Progressive Party led by Pinhas Rosen. Their original motivation for splitting in two, back in 1935, over whether to become part of the Histadrut only vanished in 1961, when Dr. Rimalt persuaded his party to set up the General Zionist Workers faction in the Labour Federation. In the first Knesset, the Progressives had five seats, and the General Zionists, seven. While the former became an integral part of most Mapai/Labour coalitions, the latter stayed in the opposition. In the Second Knesset, the G.Z. won 20 seats, the Progressives dropped to four. Both served in B.G.'s new cabinet (1952-55). In the Third Knesset the Progressives stayed in the coalition with five MKs, the G.Z. dropped to 13 and stayed outside. In the Fourth Knesset (1959), the Progressives got six seats, while the G.Z. dwindled to eight. That was the last time the General Zionists ran on their own ticket. In 1961 they merged with the Progressives, calling the union the Liberal Party. They had trusted that Dr. Nahum Goldmann would be their leader, but he preferred the fleshpots of the Diaspora. That year they emerged from the Fifth Knesset elections with 17 MKs, and stayed in opposition.

However, the new format did not last long and four years later when Rimalt and Sapir resolved to found Gahal, the Progressives split away, forming the Independent Liberals. The ILP began their process of decline. In the Sixth Knesset they had five seats, in the Seventh Knesset — four; in the Eighth Knesset — four; in the Ninth Knesset — one MK, for the first time in opposition; in the Tenth Knesset elections they failed to make it, and for the Eleventh Knesset elections they opted for a safe place on the Labour Alignment list.

The General Zionists did, however, come together in the years of the National Unity Government — under Levi Eshkol (1967-68) and Golda Meir (1968-70). Gahal won 26 in the Sixth Knesset with the Liberals getting 12, the same ratio obtaining for the Seventh and Eighth Knesset elections. But with the *mahapach* in 1977 the Likud victory increased the Liberals' share until their unprecedented zenith of 18 seats in the Tenth Knesset. Interestingly, while their number of cabinet seats soared to six, their influence declined, largely as the result of the loss of the Finance Ministry by their leader, the late Simha Ehrlich, whose death has also left them without the first deputy premiership and the acting premiership. A prime reason for Ehrlich's fall was not only the failure of his economic policy but the intrigues of his party colleagues, principally Moda'i, who was the first member of the first Begin cabinet to break its collective discipline. Nonetheless, Ehrlich later made a minor comeback, largely because of his special relationship with Herut's chief. With his disappearance from the scene, rancour and suspicion have replaced the tea-drinking camaraderie that obtained between "Reb Menachem" and "Reb Simha."

AS EARLY as Ehrlich's time, on the eve of the 1981 elections, the Liberals handed over the prerogative of picking their minister to the Herut leader. Yet they never managed to retrieve the Treasury largely because the would-be candidate, Yitzhak Moda'i, was bitterly opposed by his peers, particularly Gideon Peart and Avraham Sharir. In their penchant for jugular-vein grabbing politics, the current Liberal front-bench truly are heirs of the General Zionist tradition. I remember well as a fledgling reporter in the late 50s, hearing bitter complaints from Israel Rokach and Shoshana Persitz at the way they had been so ill-used by Yosef Saphir, Haim Levonon and Yosef Serlin.

Some years later during a flight to

Paris I sat next to Serlin and heard from him a torrent of criticism against Saphir and Rimalt, among others. Years to come I was to witness Levonon being pushed out by Saphir and Ehrlich, who later unseated Rimalt. Not for nothing was the General Zionist roundabout compared to a musical comedy version in Yiddish of the "Borgia Family Saga" produced by Avraham Goldfaden.

Of course the big transformation took place when the players joined Menachem Begin's puppet theatre. One supposes that the dilemma facing the entire cast is that they cannot decide who will be the new puppeteer.

A major reason given for Herut insistence on a quickie merger with the Liberals has been the bigger party's urgent need to get its collective hands on its partner's assets. When Gahal came into being, it was then described in the picaresque fashion as the common law union of a rough and tough young man from a proletarian neighbourhood with a well-endowed widow who offered him respectability and entry into society.

As things turned out the union never got beyond cohabitation, and now that the young man has matured

into solid bourgeois status and wants to stop living in sin, he finds it rather difficult to get his hands on the promised dowry.

LIKE EVERYONE else I was under the impression that the Liberal Party was a wealthy organization. Some investigative reporting confirmed that first impression was correct, but that many difficulties exist in the way of proving it. It appears that "Reb Simha" Ehrlich took the trouble some years back to register the party's assets in real estate and securities under the names of the special non-profit-making trusts. He did so after a serious financial crisis that beset the Liberal Party forced it to mortgage one of the six floors of its party head offices on Rehov Ibn-Gabirol.

He is said to have felt that a future party leader might wish to sell off the party's assets. When I asked party treasurer Zvi Renner, an old Ehrlich confidant, about the state of the party's assets, all he was willing to mention was its party headquarters.

Renner was being less than frank with me, nor did he mention the key role in controlling the party's estates of Ehrlich's best friend and party ally, millionaire Israel Sacharov, who preceded Renner as party

treasurer. But Sacharov is quite inaccessible on such matters. Nor should it be forgotten that a third key figure controls the strings of the party's finances, Arye Dulzin, an off-and-on Ehrlich ally.

It is difficult to know how much the party's real estate is worth. After all, the General Zionists were traditionally strong in local government. There are rumours about the juicy chunks of real estate the party has accumulated over the years of its control of such burgeoning urban areas as Tel Aviv, Ramat Gan, Netanya and Rehovot — to mention just a few General Zionist-Liberal strongholds.

I know for certain that the party owns, under another title, a promising piece of Tel Aviv property adjoining the Shekhem skyscraper on Rehov Ibn-Gabirol. That kind of possession must be duplicated many times over throughout the country, all under differing ownerships, but not in the party's explicit name.

ONE OPEN source of money is IS9 million per month coming under the law for the state financing of parties. That is under the watchful eye of the State Comptroller's office. That is not the case with the regular, if less publicized, cash flow from the Liber-

als' Workers faction's share in the Likud revenue from the Histadrut political levy.

Incidentally, eliciting details on this item turned out to be quite a detective story. Histadrut spokesman Shmuel Suler was his usual helpful self, but for some reason Histadrut Treasurer Natan Almosino, one of Abduh Ha'avoda's relics in the federation stonewalled when it came to letting me in on details of the political levy revenue of anyone, not only of the Liberals. You would think that Almosino had something to hide.

I did recall, however, that 15 years ago the Histadrut Executive resolved that a fixed, if small percentage of all members' dues would be allocated to its constituent factions as a political levy. The money would be divided strictly according to the number of votes each party nets.

Thus, the Likud gets about 28 per cent of this revenue, of which about 3 per cent has been going to that even more fictional party, La'am, with the rest divided equally between Herut and the Liberals. The former's leadership grumbled that it does all the work and brings in all the votes but the Liberals get half the cash.

By my reckoning, the Liberal Workers faction gets from the Histadrut about IS48m.-IS50m. per annum. That tidy sum is transferred

to the coffers of the Liberal Workers, without the party having any say in the money's disposal. The party budget has no mention of the donations pouring in from abroad via various channels. They usually get registered in various funds not under party control. In former days, the General Zionists' Constructive Fund used to be the receptacle for the party's share of Zionist fund-raising abroad. The annual amount is today put at \$400,000.

The money is reportedly channelled to a trust fund named "Ofek" and then invested in securities and dollar-linked deposits.

While failing to pin down the names of those controlling these funds, I did unearth the information that the stocks and shares which the Liberal Party's offshoots have invested in the Tel Aviv stock exchange suffered losses of about IS60 million in the 1982 market crash.

That sum offers some insight into the actual value of the party's hidden assets.

The Likud still is in debt to the tune of IS62 million following last November's local government elections. The Liberal share of the debt amounts to some IS30 million.

The Likud will receive IS360 million under state financing of the elections, but that amount under law, cannot be applied to old debts.

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# A MUTUAL DEPENDENCE

Hirsh Goodman examines a strategic agreement that is emerging between Washington and Jerusalem

IT COULD BE that a week or two before the elections on July 23, we will be informed of a wide-ranging strategic agreement with the United States. The agreement has been in the works for months now — since November last, when Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Defence Minister Moshe Arens visited Washington. Since then, all talk of the agreement has been suppressed by both sides, apart from casual hints dropped by American officials like Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger when it was politically propitious to do so.

On the Israeli side, questions on the agreement have been met by official silence, even though it seems clear that it is in Israel's immediate strategic interest to let the other side know that, despite the country's current economic problems and the impact these are having on the defence budget, the United States is contractually bound to Israel's defence.

The hints that have been coming out of Washington point to an agreement unlike anything reached between the two countries in the past. Weinberger revealed — one can assume not coincidentally — when he was speaking to some 100 Jewish newspaper editors earlier this week, that in addition to the help being given in developing the Lavi fighter jet, the Americans were also partners in the development of a new Israeli missile boat, the Saar-V.

The U.S. defence secretary revealed, too, that soon Israel and the United States would be conducting a large military medical exercise, and that other points of military contact had been made between the two countries.

We also know that for the past six months several Israeli and U.S. defence personnel visited Washington and Israel to discuss the new agreement. Officials spoken to here earlier this week expect that it will be signed within several months.

Why the secrecy? The United States is, apparently, more than nervous about the reaction in the Arab world. The administration's decision this week to shelve its plans to help Jordan build up a rapid deployment force would look twice as bad if it came in tandem with official reports of unprecedented Israeli-American strategic cooperation. Israel, for its part, prefers the details of the agreement to remain an enigma for the Arabs and the Soviet Union, both to keep them guessing about its dimensions and to preclude any last-minute Arab lobbying that could kill the agreement before pen is put to paper.

Thus, on the surface of things, it seems that there is an agreement in the works; that it will have both tactical and strategic elements, and that it will contain American commitments to Israel's security needs. Currently being articulated by defence teams from both sides, the agreement will probably move a step closer to formal conclusion

when Defence Minister Arens visits Washington for talks with Weinberger and Secretary of State George Schultz early next month.

THE QUESTION IS: Why is the United States, at the possible expense of its relations with the Arab world, prepared to enter into a formal defence pact with Israel? Surely it must expect some quid pro quo? There must be a reason beyond America's affinity for Israeli democracy to explain the change of heart in Washington.

After all, the same Caspar Weinberger who this week went out of his way to stress the new ties has been known as one of the most vociferous critics of this country, and pro-Arab to the point of selling the Saudi Arabians AWACS, the Jordanians the F-16 and the Egyptians an entire new modernized and Westernized army.

There are several things Israel could speculatively be asked to do in return for the defence bonanza due to be delivered in the coming months. These could include an Israeli commitment to side actively with the U.S. within the context of a superpower confrontation in the Middle East, even outside the direct sphere of Israeli interest, or to act as a surrogate for the U.S. This would

apply in countries with which it is uncomfortable for America to be overtly associated, despite its interest in maintaining the incumbent regimes in these countries.

Israeli defence officials emphatically deny that the agreement either stipulates or even hints at a surrogate role, or moves Israel into a direct confrontation position with the Soviet Union anywhere in the Middle East. The Americans are interested in strategic cooperation because they have much to gain from such an agreement: a secure, sophisticated and reliable forward base for their own forces in the advent of an American military effort in this region, and logistical-intelligence support from Israel, should conflict break out.

"We will be sort of another American aircraft carrier out here, a platform from which the Americans can operate."

While this may be true, it is not new. For years Israel has been trying to elevate military contacts between the two countries to a level where they will not be subject to day-to-day fluctuations in political relations between the two countries.

Despite the generosity of American military financial and technical

assistance in the past, suspension and embargo have been omnipresent reminders of the carrot-and-stick nature of this aid. Strategic cooperation would remove the tenuous link that binds Israel's overall military capability to fluctuations of either government or government policy. It would concretize America's commitment to Israel's security as part of the balance-of-power equation the Arabs will have to take into account should hostilities break out again.

An open American commitment to Israel, signed and based on agreed-upon contingency plans, is a crucial factor in the Arab perception of Israeli military strength at any given time. If such a commitment is taken as unequivocal by the Arabs and impervious to potential political pressure, it is worth many divisions in the field.

And only such a commitment can serve to narrow the growing gap between Israel and the Arabs, as the latter systematically build up their armies to levels Israel can never hope to match.

WHAT ISRAEL hopes to gain from a formal treaty is clear; what the Americans want is less clear. To date, American attitudes to Israel as

an open military ally have been ambivalent, at best.

The U.S. refused Israeli aid when trying to free the American hostages in Iran. It refused Israeli medical assistance after its Marine headquarters were destroyed by a terrorist car bomb in Beirut. The American military refused to act together with Israel (and France) in retaliating against the perpetrators of the Beirut and Tyre terrorist attacks and have been so sensitive to open contacts with the Israeli military that they have consistently refused to hold joint military maneuvers with Israel.

Now suddenly there is a change. One so fundamental that the pending agreement is being described as a watershed in Israel-American relations and the agreement itself "unlike anything reached before." Is this because Israel has suddenly agreed to do things on America's behalf that it has refused to do in the past? Or is it because of the approaching elections in both countries?

Elections could be a consideration in the timing of the announcement, but could not possibly be the main, or even an important, reason for the talks.

If anything, the developing treaty

between the two countries can be seen as an American admission, at last, that Israel does have something to offer in terms of defending the free world and specific American interests. It can be seen as an admission that the billions that have flowed to this country in past aid have not been a unilateral gesture of goodwill only, or even a function of good Jewish lobbyists in Washington.

Military assistance to Israel from the United States has not been charity; it has been an investment in building up an ally that can be trusted and counted upon to act when asked to do so and, in acting, can be considered as a credible block to Soviet designs in this region. It would seem that the time has come for public recognition of a mutuality of dependence, rather than a one-sided reliance by Israel on the U.S. for its security needs.

Israel needs this recognition urgently. It needs to be recognized as a strategic asset of the United States, just as Western Europe is, if the billions of dollars received in aid are to remain unquestioned by successive administrations. But what Israel and Israelis have to recognize is that with the benefits will come a price.

It is what Israel will have to pay that remains an enigma.

One can only hope there are sound objective reasons for keeping the public in the dark as to what Israel is committing itself to in return for the pact.

The writer is the defence correspondent of The Jerusalem Post.

## NRP on the ropes

By CHARLES HOFFMAN

AT FIRST, the settlement movement in the West Bank broadly known as Gush Emunim resisted the idea of a thorough re-examination of its words and deeds over the years to see if these had played any role in the growth of a Jewish terrorist underground in its midst. Those under arrest are only suspects, it was said, no charges have been brought, let's wait and see if the investigation turns up anything of substance.

Once word got back to the movement from the suspects by way of their legal counsel, however, it became clear enough that something was indeed terribly amiss; that the movement could no longer take refuge in a legalistic avoidance of the gut issues or in fantasies of a massive plot by the security services against the movement.

Groups of settler leaders began convening for what seemed to be the inevitable *heshbon nefesh* (soul-searching), with the initial impulse towards introspection culminating last week in a major gathering at Gush Etzion.

Whatever the outcome of this process of historical and ideological reckoning, it is worth noting that it has got off the mark and into first gear without any significant push from the National Religious Party.

LOOKING AT THIS derelict of a party adrift on the seas, with its crew huddling in fear of the next storm over the horizon, one might say: well, what did you expect, anyway? But that is precisely the point. No one seems to have expected any kind of guidance in this historical crisis from the NRP, the political descendant of the Mizrahi party which first successfully bridged the gap between tradition and modern Jewish nationalism.

To be sure, we heard a few mutterings of astonishment, outrage or confusion from individual NRP figures, such as Education Minister Zevulun Hammer, who said that nationalism should not become a modern form of idol-worship. And in the Knesset this week, MK Yehuda Ben-Meir was even more forthright in condemning the acts perpetrated by the underground and in calling for a collective soul-searching in the religious Zionist movement.

Whether intended or not, such statements served the function of relieving the anxiety of both the Orthodox and non-Orthodox members of the public, many of whom were awaiting some sort of moral leadership from the political heads of the movement which, after all, spawned Gush Emunim and the messianic obsession with Eretz Yisrael that animates it to this day.

But these statements did not appear to have any role in stimulating the religious settler movement to address the tough issues raised by the exposure of the underground.

As painful as this surely was for the movement, it was able to launch this soul-searching process under its own steam, despite the dangers of internal dissension that it has sparked.

THE BLATANT FACT is that so far, the NRP as a collective body, as a movement that is supposed to exercise some responsibility for the behaviour of its offshoots in the historical course of Zionism, has put its head in the sand. It owes the exercise of moral leadership that it is now dodging not only to its constituents, but also to the non-Orthodox moderate stream in the Zionist movement that has been its partner for the last 80 years in building the Land and establishing the state.

As it appears now, the deck is stacked heavily against the NRP rising to the occasion and confronting the affront to its religious Zionist

synthesis posed by the idol-worship of Eretz Yisrael and practised by the "best and the brightest" of its sons and daughters.

The most obvious symptom of its inability to perform in a crisis is the rampant factionalism — now flourishing to an unprecedented extreme even for the NRP, where factionalism has become a way of life — which has created an impasse in forming the party's list for the Knesset elections.

The real sickness here is not only the dissension over who gets on the list, but the inability to agree on how the list should be put together. This failure to agree on rules for making decisions spells doom for any group pretending to call itself a political party.

BEYOND THE NRP's current factional malaise, though, lie problems that stem paradoxically from the success of religious Zionism in institutionalizing its ideological vision.

As a movement within Zionism, it has succeeded in creating an outlook and way of life, replete with its own symbols, such as the knitted *kippa*, and passing it on to the younger generation.

The Labour movement, by way of comparison, can today only dream about a youth movement such as Bnei Akiva that faithfully carries on the vision of the founding fathers.

The religious kibbutz movement, the state religious school system, the religious labour organization and moshavim of Hapoel Hamizrabi, the religious Zionist yeshivot and, last but not least, the *yeshivot hesder* in which the students combine study with military training — these are all expressions of a movement that still has a considerable amount of vitality.

The development of these networks of institutions, however, has created ideological and organizational interests that have in many cases become independent of their erstwhile creator and mentor, the NRP.

This is particularly true of Gush Emunim and its settlement movement, which was never under NRP control in the first place, even though it is part and parcel of the religious Zionist movement.

WHEN A SERIOUS ideological crisis erupts, as it has now, will these progeny of the NRP look to the mother-movement for spiritual guidance?

For those offspring with a particularly strong ideological consciousness of their own, such as Bnei Akiva, Gush Emunim or the religious Zionist yeshivot, such a development is highly unlikely, even if the NRP had leaders capable of providing such guidance.

As far as spiritual leadership is concerned, the mainstream of the NRP has been systematically drained since the Six Day War of men of stature who are not identified with one of the factions on the dovish or hawkish ends of the spectrum.

What is left in the middle are party hacks of all ages and men like Hammer and Ben-Meir who have been engaged in climbing to the top for so long that they seem to have forgotten what it is they are reaching for, besides power.

Even if Hammer or Ben-Meir have the guts to attempt to shake things up within their own movement, it is questionable whether anyone else in the movement will heed their words.

The situation faced now by the NRP is not completely without precedent in the brief annals of the State of Israel. Although the cases differ in significant respects, the ideological and political crisis faced in the 1950s by Mapam, which was then one of

the largest parties in the Knesset, also called for some brutal soul-searching and educational reforms.

THE FIRST blow to Mapam, which fervently believed in a synthesis between Marxism and Zionism, was the Prague trials of 1952/3 in which a Mapam member, Mordechai Oren, was accused, convicted and later jailed by a Communist regime for being a "Zionist, imperialist spy."

This and Stalin's paranoid persecution of Jewish doctors, whom he accused of plotting to murder Soviet leaders, began to shake the firm faith of many Mapam members in Stalin and in the Soviet Union as the salvation of mankind.

These events, and the revelations several years later of the enormity of Stalin's crimes, caused the initial ideological tremors within Mapam to explode into a full-scale convulsion, complete with purges, splits and countless hours of intensive internal debates.

The party was irreparably weakened by these traumas, but its core survived largely intact, thanks mainly to the cohesiveness of its organizational backbone, the Kibbutz Ha'artzi movement, and to the fearless and stalwart leadership of the movement's founder and guru for many decades, Meir Ya'ari.

Mapam saved its synthesis at the cost of watering it down and stamping out its messianic longings focused on Stalin and the Soviet Union as the harbinger of the socialist redemption.

CAN THE NRP salvage its synthesis while expunging the messianic chauvinism within religious Zionism that lies at the root of the Gush underground?

Mapam at least could claim with a clear conscience that for all the blood spilt by Stalin, there was none on its hands. But, nevertheless, the leaders of Mapam refused to rest until they had cleansed their movement of its impure ideological demons. In contrast, a movement supposedly led by the NRP has itself been stained with the blood of innocent victims.

Will it show even a fraction of the moral courage demonstrated by Mapam in its day by denouncing and purging its false messiah?

The NRP, unfortunately, lacks more than leaders of Ya'ari's stature, who are rare in any case.

If the NRP fails to rise to the challenge, what is left of the historic justification for its existence? If the party cannot serve as channel of communication between the politically moderate non-Orthodox community and the likes of Rabbi Moshe Levinger and Benny Katzover, then what becomes of its mediating function in Zionism?

If the party cannot provide its own aberrant sons with the spiritual guidance and discipline necessary to set them back on the track of sanity, then what becomes of its leading function within its own house?

If it fails, the NRP will become — remain? — no more than a collection of party hacks available to the highest bidder in the government coalition, which spend most of their time greasing the wheels of government for the benefit of its associated interest groups.

The dialogue with the non-Orthodox community on truly important matters will be left in the hands of the Gush and Agudat Yisrael extremists.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem

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### Mordechai Ben Porat



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## Mordechai Ben Porat

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FOR MORE THAN three years now I have had a yellowing clipping from *Ha'aretz* of a cartoon by Ze'ev pinned at eye-level to the board behind my typewriter. Nearly every day I have looked up at the caricatures of a battered Prime Minister Menachem Begin and a bruised agriculture minister Ariel Sharon while the government spokesman in the background dismisses the questions of the press. "The investigation into the attacks? Which attacks? There were no attacks at all."

That cartoon was published in a week when Begin and Sharon had had one of their volcanic clashes in and outside the cabinet — clashes which have already faded from popular memory — and soon after Avraham Ahituv had resigned his post as head of the General Security Services (GSS) against the background of reports that Begin was blocking the investigation into the assassination attempts on West Bank Arab mayors.

With the filing of charges this week against 27 alleged suspects of a Jewish terrorist underground, some of whom are said to have been responsible for the attacks on the mayors, I should, I suppose, take down the clipping.

But the demonstration on Tuesday at Jerusalem's Russian Compound in support of these alleged terrorists, with the participation of a deputy speaker of the Knesset and a deputy minister, and some of the statements made there, make the removal of the cartoon appear premature. It seems almost as if the crowd outside the police lock-up in Jerusalem and their supporters elsewhere are now saying, "So what if there were attacks?"

While waiting for the proceedings to commence in Jerusalem's District Court on Wednesday, one of the

people directly involved in the investigation said quite blandly, "There is no doubt that Begin effectively hampered the investigation, even if indirectly. He did so partly, it seems because he is a democrat. Shamir allowed the GSS to do things Begin would never have sanctioned."

Inside the court, while waiting for the judge to enter, one of the accused said that he had signed a confession partly because he believed in what he had done, but largely because the GSS had collected such damning evidence against him and his accomplices.

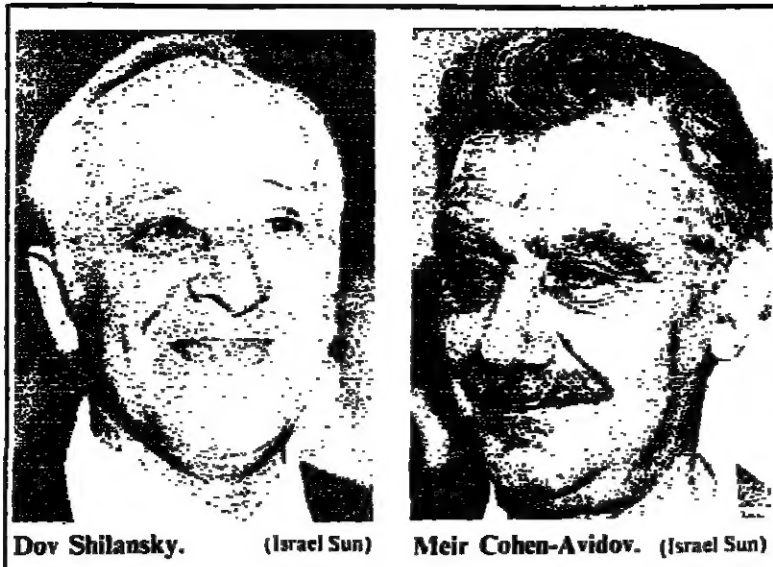
AS ONE OF those reporters who have criticized the GSS in the past, I now feel constrained to heap unreserved praise on it. It has once again proven to be one of the most efficient and apparently incorruptible counter-intelligence and anti-terrorist agencies in the world. It has vindicated itself as "the only real measure of a nation's political health, the only real expression of its subconscious," as John le Carré characterized a nation's secret services in his novel, *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy*.

Nevertheless, the so-called "Jewish terrorist underground" still poses profound questions to our society, and in particular to the national-religious camp out of which it grew.

From the charge sheet, it emerges that the founders of the group first became active in 1978. It is not clear what motivated them then to opt for terrorism, and there has been no support for the theory that they were goaded into action by the increasing-

# Politics of passion

By DAVID RICHARDSON



Dov Shilansky. (Israel Sun)

Meir Cohen-Avidov. (Israel Sun)

ly brazen activities of the radically pro-PLO National Guidance Committee.

What is clear is that the largest and possibly most dangerous Jewish terrorist cell in Israel's history evolved entirely during the rule of the Likud. They conspired, recruited, trained, acted and expanded in numbers and in scope under a government which gave Gush Emunim almost limitless support and more resources, including arms, than they really knew what to do with.

Since their arrest, it has also become clear that they enjoy wide support among the settlers. How else can the statement about these

"dear men" which the Gush released following the publication of the charges against them be interpreted? The presence of Deputy Speaker Meir Cohen-Avidov and Deputy Minister Dov Shilansky at what was clearly a demonstration in support of them would also indicate that there is still some sympathy for them within the government.

"We have to tear out the eyes and guts" of the murderers amongst the Arabs," Cohen-Avidov told the crowd.

"I would still do away with any Arab boy who raised his hand to throw a stone," said another settler in an interview last week.

It should be recalled that the former mayor of Nablus, Bassam Shak'a, who was perhaps the first victim of the underground's activities, was to be banished for refusing to condemn a Palestinian terrorist attack on Jews. One can only wonder what would have happened to him or any other Arab if the Gush were to give vent to such pathological passions.

THE SUPPORT for the activities of the accused, and the realization that somewhere there must be others like them, also make it clear that anyone who talks of withdrawing from the territories must now take into account some degree of violent resistance.

Unlike the mass and partly organized resistance to the withdrawal from Sinai, any withdrawal from the West Bank is now likely to involve individual and indiscriminate terrorism, and perhaps some form of civil war. Rabbi Yehoshua Ben Meir, head of a yeshiva in the Gush Etzion area, noted in an interview last week that the activities of such an underground could lead them eventually to assassinating some of their own leaders who felt that they had gone too far.

But the rabbi, who admitted that perhaps he and others like himself had been "misunderstood," and had not taken forceful enough positions against extremism within their own camp, refused to entertain the idea that there was something basically wrong with the ideology at the root of the settlement movement in Judea and Samaria. "The more ideological a movement becomes, the more

careful it has to be to balance itself," he said.

But the first and central charge to emerge from the papers submitted to the District Court on Wednesday must call that into question. Since the early stages of its formation in 1978, the group was allegedly involved sporadically in planning to blow up the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem. As part of their plans they alleged to have stolen enough explosives to make 30 separate charges which they secreted around the country. While this group are not demented like others who have attacked the Temple Mount, the combination of religious fervour and fanatical nationalism — which is, after all, what Gush Emunim is about — was certainly enough to intoxicate them. Why, one must ask, should it stop with them?

IN THE CORRIDOR outside the courtroom on Wednesday, the father of one of the accused, himself a resident of the West Bank, blamed the government's inability to enforce law and order on the Arabs there for the formation of the alleged terrorist group. A similar opinion was expressed at length in an article by Paul Eidelberg in these pages last week.

But the statistics available about casualties and violence in the territories totally belie this argument. There is a problem of definition involved in the figures provided by official police statistics and security sources. Serious violence by Arabs is defined as "hostile terrorist activity," stone-throwing and Arab casualties during clashes with the security forces as a "public disturbance."

But it is still clear that Arabs are by far the most common victims of both kinds of violence. Between April 1982 and March 1983, 11 local

Arabs and two Israelis were killed during public disturbances in the West Bank. Israeli civilians and security personnel injured during that period numbered 174, while 90 local residents were injured. Most of the Israelis were injured by stones, most of the Arabs by bullets.

Between 1978 and February this year, total casualty figures as a result of "hostile terrorist activity" in the West Bank were: 4 soldiers killed and 38 wounded; 16 Israeli civilians killed and 115 wounded; 32 Arabs killed and 168 wounded.

Police statistics for the past year indicate that 30 per cent of the complaints about rock-throwing attacks on Israeli vehicles in the West Bank eventually result in prosecution against a national average inside the Green Line of 24 per cent.

In addition, the settlers are obliged to carry arms, including automatic rifles provided free by the army; all of their settlements are guarded by soldiers; most of the buses taking their children to school are accompanied by soldiers; and there are regular patrols inside the towns and along the major roads. Arrests of Palestinians by the army, police or GSS are so commonplace they are rarely reported.

While it is undeniable that the settlers are exposed to rock-throwing attacks and other threats from a hostile population, they are there of their own free will.

What has emerged from the charges brought against the alleged terrorist group, and from the reactions of those who support or sympathize with them, is that in exercising that choice they are set on denying the rest of our society its right to choose.

The writer covers West Bank affairs for The Jerusalem Post.

REPUBLICAN SENATOR Jesse Helms of North Carolina is widely regarded in Washington as one of Israel's most consistent foes. He almost always votes against Israel. Which is why his May 16 letter to President Ronald Reagan raised some eyebrows.

"We should never pursue any plan that envisions a separation of the West Bank from Israel," he wrote, adding: "Given the deep attachment of the Israelis to Samaria and Judea, they need, from the deepest spiritual motives, free access to those biblical lands."

The Palestinians, he continued, "also have a long history with these lands."

So what is Helms's solution? "The Palestinians either should be granted full political, civil and economic rights, with proportional representa-

tion in the Knesset, and Hebrew and Arabic both as official languages, or the Palestinians could have an autonomous unit within a confederal state with an undivided Jerusalem as a common capital. What we cannot accept is a Soviet-backed PLO state in the heart of the Holy Land."

Helms said in his letter to Reagan: "The United States, as a nation, should recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel." But he went on to oppose the legislation — on constitutional grounds — which calls for the transfer of the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

"I believe that the proposed legislation would be an infringement upon the president's authority to conduct foreign policy, since it mandates an action within the president's jurisdiction."

The senator proposed that

## THE HELMS DOCTRINE

WASHINGTON NOTES / Wolf Blitzer

Reagan "consider pre-empting the mischief which this legislation might do by acting now to recognize Jerusalem in the context I have described. The moving of the embassy obviously would be a first step in this process."

Why so much concern for Israel all of a sudden? Left unsaid in the

letter, of course, is the fact that Helms, an arch-conservative, is currently running for his political life. His Democratic challenger, North Carolina's popular Governor Jim Hunt, is ahead in the polls and is attracting considerable support from Israel's politically active friends around the country. Helms, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, is really feeling the heat.

HERUT MK Michael Kleiner has been in Washington recently in search of additional right-wing conservative support for Israel.

The conservative movement of Israel and the conservative movement of America will join together to combat the forces of totalitarianism and international communism around the world," he told a Capitol Hill news conference sponsored by the pillars of the conservative movement in Washington — Howard Phillips, chairman of the Conservative Caucus; Richard Viguerie, publisher of *Conservative Digest*; Paul Weyrich, chairman of Capitol Coalitions for America; and Craig Shir-

ley, of the National Conservative Political Action Committee.

"We believe it is high time to unite all the forces which believe in freedom, democracy, righteousness and biblical values," Kleiner was quoted as saying by the conservative *Washington Times*, which is owned by the Rev. Moon's Church.

PHILLIP KLUTZNICK, the outspoken former president of the World Jewish Congress, is a judge in a contest sponsored by the Arab Women's Council for Research and Education Fund.

Any sophomore, junior or senior, who is currently enrolled in one of the 114 historically black colleges or universities in the United States can participate simply by writing an essay on "The Arab-Israeli Conflict: A Solution."

Eighteen finalists will receive a free, three-week "study trip" to the Middle East. The Arab Women's Council, by the way, is headed by the wife of Saudi Arabia's ambassador to the United States, Mrs. Nounha Alhagelan. She is also among the judges. The others are Dr. Michael Hudson, of Georgetown University's Centre for Contemporary Arab Studies, a well-known critic of Israel; Democratic Congresswoman Mary Rose Oaker, of Ohio, who is of Arab ancestry; and Dr. Stanley Smith, president of predominantly black Shaw University.

THE U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced that American and Israeli researchers are using spiders to help farmers increase their yields and cut down on their use of

chemical pesticides. The research project is one of many being undertaken by the American-Israeli Binational Agricultural Research and Development Fund.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, certain spiders were found by American and Israeli researchers to be effective in destroying cotton-damaging larvae and scale insects which attack citrus fruits. By using spiders as the first line of attack against these insect pests, farmers can delay spraying their fields with chemical pesticides.

MARIE SYRKIN, the noted American Zionist author and teacher, was honoured recently at a beautiful luncheon celebrating the 50th anniversary of the *Jewish Frontier*, the American Labour Zionist publication. Professors Irving Howe, and Ben Halpern were among those who paid tribute to Syrkine.

She recalled the early days of the Zionist movement in America: "Our problem then was to acquaint any kind of public with the meaning of Labour Zionism in that little corner of the Middle East," she said. "We have the reverse trouble now; we are grateful when Israel is not on the front pages."

IT'S HARD for American Jews to stay out of Israeli politics. Now, Washington D.C. Friends of Peace Now wants to get involved — as have Friends of Labour, Likud, Tami, the religious parties, Ariel Sharon, Rabbi Meir Kahane, Ezer Weizman and almost every other Israeli party and

politician. In their own ways, they are solidifying funds for the current campaigning underway in Israel.

"By dramatizing during the heat of the election campaign the harmful effects on the prospect for peace and on Israel as a Jewish democratic society of the government's West Bank and Lebanon policies, Peace Now will seek both to restrain those policies and to embolden the progressive forces within all of the contending parties," the Friends of Peace Now said in a letter dated May 11 and signed by Robert Hausman and Elliott Lichtman, both of Washington.

"Those educational efforts will be costly. Peace Now has asked its North American support groups to raise approximately \$40,000 within the next two months. The letter asked tax-deductible checks to be made payable to "New Israel Fund/Peace Now."

PEACE NOW, of course, is not the only institution seeking U.S. funds. Chai (or Concern for Helping Animals in Israel) is also making a major pitch.

Joining its advisory board is Isaac Bashevis Singer and Democratic Congressman Tom Lantos of California. Among Israelis on the board are Joan Comay, honorary president of the SPCA in Jerusalem, Education Minister Zevulun Hamiger, and Dr. Andre Menache, chief veterinarian of the SPCA in Tel Aviv.

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סדרה 15

# The Jackson factor

By WALTER RUBY/Post New York Correspondent



Jesse Jackson...no rebuke from black leaders.

(Zoom 71)

whose remarks have also caused a stir recently: "His beliefs and his tradition are not four-square with Judeo-Christian heritage. Black folk don't give Farrakhan that much importance. He is the leader of 10,000 people."

Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the UAHC, told *The Jerusalem Post*: "I was frankly disappointed that Hooks did not speak out more forthrightly against extremism in the black community. Responsible black leaders must speak out against extremism and anti-Semitism in their ranks, just as we have spoken out forthrightly against the use of disruptions and threatening language by the Jewish Defence League."

THE STATEMENT adopted by the UAHC is the first official call by a major black or Jewish group for a rebuilding of the black-Jewish alliance since the beginning of the Jackson campaign.

While not mentioning Jackson by name, the statement said: "We are deeply distressed by the atmosphere of harassment, threats of violence and appeals to prejudice that have been part of the current election campaign."

It adds: "We condemn as indefensible threats of terrorism and reprisals directed against blacks or Jews, whether emanating from the Jewish Defence League or the Nation of Islam (Black Muslims). In-

THE LEADERS of Reform Judaism this week called on the U.S. Jewish and black communities to look beyond the polarization and mutual mistrust that has grown out of the Jesse Jackson presidential campaign, and to begin the job of rebuilding the alliance that once existed between the two groups.

The board of trustees of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC), representing 770 Reform temples in the U.S. and Canada, called on "responsible black and Jewish leaders" to reconstitute a coalition of conscience that will be sensitive to each other's concerns and that will provide a framework for building together a just society."

The growing rift between black and Jewish leadership was itself dramatically highlighted at the UAHC meeting, held in a hotel in Secaucus, New Jersey, during a speech to the group by Benjamin Hooks, executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Hooks acknowledged that Jackson had apologized for his "hymietown" slur and added: "I would hope that his apology can be accepted and we can move on."

Hooks stressed that he has known Jesse Jackson for 20 years, "and I do not believe he is anti-Semitic." Hooks also failed to strongly condemn Jackson confidant Louis Farrakhan, the Black Muslim leader

ISRAEL IS MAKING a small but nevertheless valuable contribution towards easing Britain's huge unemployment problem. With well over three million British workers out of work - and few signs of a substantial decrease in that total on the horizon - the fact that a major Israeli company is employing seven hundred people in Britain is worthy of note.

The company in question is Polgat more specifically, its clothing subsidiary, Bagir.

Six years ago, Bagir UK acquired its first modest foothold on British soil when it opened an office in London to deal with its then-burgeoning trade with the giant Marks and Spencer chain. Two years ago, it bought a factory in Wigan, Lancashire, producing jackets for Marks and Spencer. And now it has just opened a new factory in Skelmersdale, about 10 kilometres from Wigan and about halfway between Manchester and Liverpool.

The Wigan factory was owned by the Courtauld textile group, producing ladies' tights, and was about to close, with the potential loss of some 300 jobs. The Skelmersdale venture involved the purchase of a factory which had been derelict for seven years.

Now that it is fully operational, 350 people are working there.

IT IS a truly impressive operation, combining many of the qualities which have made Polgat a success story in Israel, and Marks and Spencer, its principal customer, a household name throughout much

of the Western world.

The venture cost Polgat about \$5 million to set up, but it is already proving its value.

An amazing total of 65,000 garments a week are handled there. Each day of its five-day week (it closes early on Friday, but not because of Shabbat), 2,400 jackets, 4,500 pairs of trousers, 1,000 skirts and 5,000 nightdresses are sent out to the seven Marks and Spencer distribution depots throughout Britain.

THE GARMENTS are all made in the Bagir factory in Kyrat Gat, bundled into cardboard containers and shipped or air-freighted to Skelmersdale. They arrive crumpled up, without buttons and without the tickets indicating their size. These processes are completed in the modern, efficient and highly computerized Skelmersdale factory.

First they are pressed to perfection - much of the work done by hand, but with the most modern equipment. Then the buttons are sewn on, and finally they are ticked. This final process is done with incredible efficiency and at great speed as a result of a new computer from Germany.

The garments pass from one process to the next on a series of moving overhead rails which crisscross the length and breadth of the factory. On a tour of the factory in the company of its managing director, the jovial Harry Bennet, I spoke to many of the workers, all of whom appeared genuinely happy to be

working there - indeed, to be working anywhere as a large proportion were previously unemployed. Skelmersdale has one of the highest unemployment rates in the country - over 20 per cent.

BUT IT IS NOT just the fact that they have a job. Working for Bagir UK under Harry Bennet is a job to be cherished.

"The people who work here are part of a partnership," says Bennet. "I'm on first-name terms with most of them" - a claim I was able to verify as we passed through the factory and he asked many of them about their families.

"I never instruct people - I ask them. We have developed a wonderful relationship. I send all of the staff a birthday card, signed personally. They appreciate it. Running a factory is all about people."

The factory was in a state of serious disrepair when Polgat bought it. The roof was leaking in several places, there was no heating, no

office accommodation, and substantial structural repairs were needed. The first part of the building was opened just over a year ago, and the first pair of trousers were pressed in April 1983.

Harry Bennet was in at the start, supervising the installation of every light bulb, every piece of machinery. Aged 63, he has spent over 30 years in the clothing business, much of it with Great Universal Stores (founded by Isaac Wolfson). He has been with Polgat for the last 14 years, buying cloth and clothing.

Before coming up to Skelmersdale, he was joint managing director (with Robin Wolf) of the London office of Polgat, which goes under the name of Istez.

THOUGH NOT JEWISH, he says that he "acts, thinks and works as a Jew."

He was born and brought up in the East End of London in the days when it was the centre of Jewish life in Britain. In the '30s, he was active

in the fight against the British fascist leader Oswald Mosley and his anti-Semitic Blackshirts. During World War II, he was a glider pilot and was captured by the Germans and imprisoned. "But I didn't like it there very much, so I escaped," he jokes.

He lives just outside London, driving the 200 miles to Skelmersdale every Monday morning (leaving home at 5 a.m.) and returning on Friday afternoons.

He takes a visible pride in what has been achieved in the factory - "It's a labour of love for me" - and is glad of the opportunity of "making my mark on a new venture."

With a turnover of £28 million a year, the factory is an important part of Polgat's set-up. It has enabled the company to have more space in their Israeli factories (there is now no need to hang the garments neatly when they are made, for example. They are simply bundled into boxes and sent to England). This, in turn, has led to an increase in production in Israel.

IN SETTING UP the Skelmersdale operation, many Israelis from the Kyrat Gat plant came over for short periods to provide expertise, but none works there.

In contrast, the nearby Wigan factory is run by an Israeli, 43-year-old

Argentinian-born Moshe Langlieb. He was not in the job when the factory opened two years ago, but came over five months ago with his wife and two sons. They live in nearby Cheshire, just outside Manchester, where there is a young and lively community of Jews (and some Israelis) with whom the Langliebs are fast making friends.

The Wigan plant differs from that at Skelmersdale in that it actually makes garments from scratch. It employs 300 workers who turn out 5,000 jackets a week. Some of the cloth is from the Polgat factories in Israel, with the rest coming from a number of other countries. When complete, the jackets are sent on the short journey to Skelmersdale for finishing. They all carry a "Made in England" label, whereas the others finished at Skelmersdale have a "Made in Israel" label already in place when they arrive.

Langlieb, formerly deputy-managing director of Bagir in Israel, is "enjoying every minute of it here."

"It is not easy, but it is a challenge. I am pleased by the response of the workforce to my guidance. I am close to them, I share their problems and try to help to resolve them."

DURING HIS SPEECH to the UAHC, Hooks said he believes that much of the estrangement between blacks and Jews is due to the opposi-

tion of leading Jewish organizations and prominent Jewish leaders to Affirmative Action, a practice which has been used in the past to give qualified black candidates for public employment preference over qualified white candidates.

"There has been a misunderstanding by some in the Jewish community about the importance of Affirmative Action for blacks," said Hooks. "Affirmative Action is as important to blacks as Israel is to Jews. It is the single most important litmus test we apply to gauge whether or not a person is in support of our struggle."

On another point, Hooks said: "There is a mistaken impression that blacks as a whole are anti-Israel, and therefore anti-Semitic... It is possible for many blacks to be supportive of Third World aspirations, and sympathetic to the plight of the Palestinians, and also to believe that the people of Israel are entitled to a homeland within safe and secure boundaries."

Asked by *The Jerusalem Post* whether blacks could appreciate Jewish concern and revulsion at Jackson's characterization of Zionism as a "poisonous weed," Hooks replied: "No. The great majority of blacks have little understanding or concern about Zionism. You should understand that what may be a burning issue in the Jewish community may not be an issue at all in other communities."

opened, it was producing 3,750 jackets a week. The 5,000 target has only just been reached, but already Langlieb is looking forward to the next target - 5,250.

Bennet, too, is thinking of expansion. There is some room for additional buildings adjoining the Skelmersdale factory, but although he is reluctant to be precise, he does hint that Bagir UK has not reached its full potential in Britain.

At the official opening ceremony of the factory a few weeks ago, the non-Jewish but fervently pro-Zionist Bennet personally arranged for the Israeli and British flags to fly at the entrance to the factory as the distinguished guests arrived (they included Marks and Spencer chairman Lord Sieff and the chairman of the local Skelmersdale council, which has welcomed Bagir with open arms), and for smaller versions of the two flags to be on each table at the lunch for the 120 guests in a specially erected marquee.

The country of Lancashire was for decades the centre of British textile production. It may be somewhat ironic that the industry is being kept alive thanks to an Israeli company, but no one seems to mind.

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## Bagir boom in Britain

By HYAM CORNEY/Post London Correspondent

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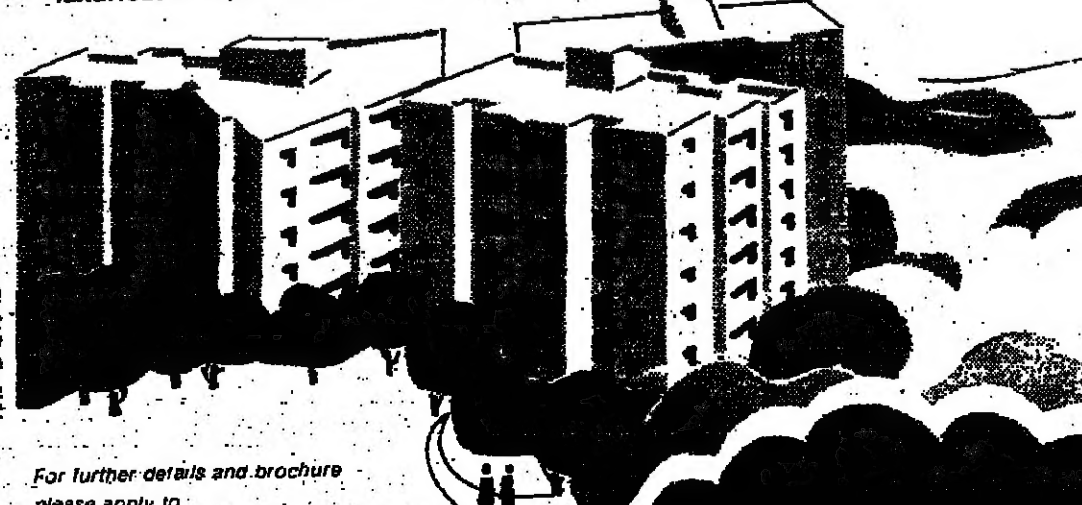
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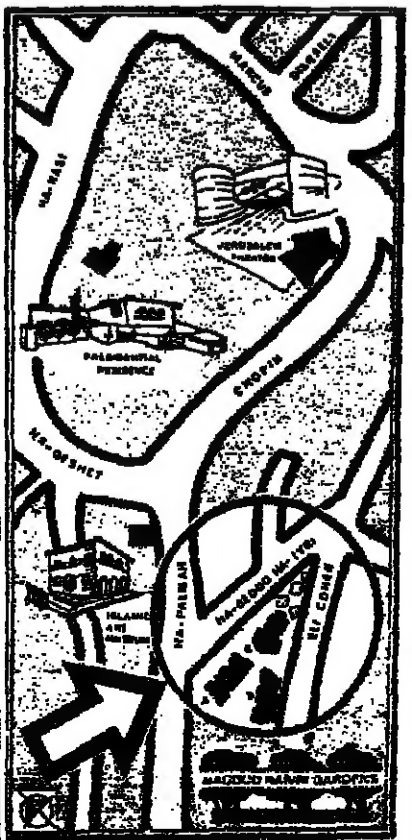
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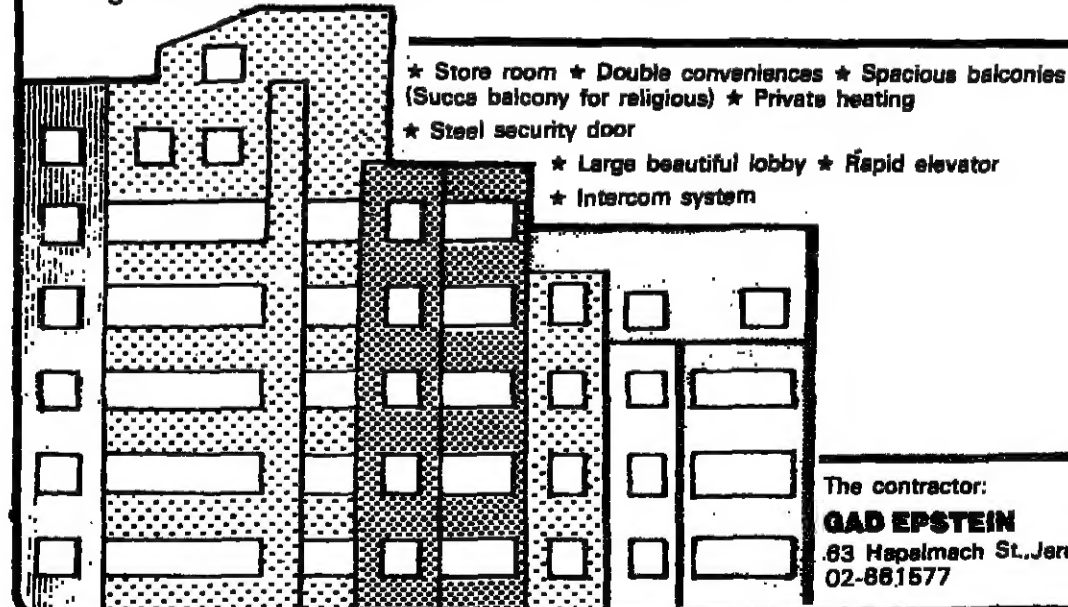
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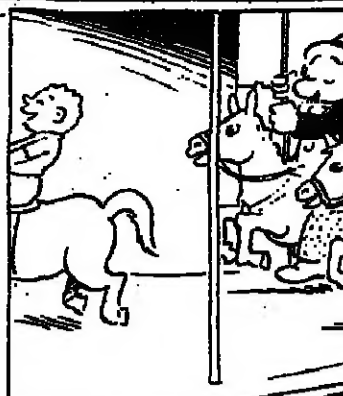
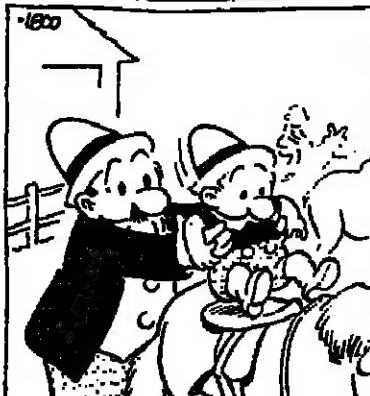
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### THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE SOLUTIONS TO TODAY'S PUZZLE NEXT FRIDAY

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# Slicing the cake in university

By CHARLES HOFFMAN/Jerusalem Post Reporter



Haim Harari. (Ben-Zvi)

IT IS NOT OFTEN that an insider — and a highly-placed one at that — breaks the conspiracy of silence that surrounds an institutional domain of "experts." Those on the inside usually protect the flaws in their domain from public scrutiny, while deflecting the criticism of outsiders due to their lack of expert qualifications.

It was thus especially illuminating to hear a resounding critique of the system for allocating research funds within Israel's universities, by no less an authority than the chairman of the planning and grants committee of the Council for Higher Education, Prof. Haim Harari, a physicist at the Weizmann Institute.

He spoke at a symposium on the problems of basic research in Israel held at the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Jerusalem earlier this week.

Ten years ago, said Harari, most research carried out at the country's seven universities was funded through internal university channels. Part of the money poured into the university hopper by the government was divided among the various departments and units within departments on a more or less egalitarian basis, with everybody getting a piece of the action.

The drastic cuts in government funds for the universities — the first following the Yom Kippur War and the most recent in the last few years — have virtually eliminated these internal sources of research funds.

WHILE BEWAILING the damage done by these cuts, Harari in effect said "good riddance" to the old system itself, which encouraged mediocrity in the traditional academic disciplines and the proliferation of studies masquerading as "research" in the newer semi-academic fields.

Basic research, whether it is in history or chemistry, sociology or mathematics, involves the discovery of new, frequently unexpected, knowledge, or at the very least the testing of fundamental theories about nature or human society.

The main task of the university professor is to engage in basic research, Harari stressed, "and for this we have no apologies to make to anyone."

The applied benefits of basic research, he noted, may become apparent from one to thirty years after the initial discovery is made, but meanwhile the search for basic knowledge about ourselves and our world should go wherever scholarly inquiry takes it.

The term "research," he said, has been stretched in recent years to cover what is actually the development of technological applications of basic discoveries — thus, people have become accustomed to saying "research and development" (R&D) in the same breath.

THE TERM has also been appropriated by some of the newer, semi-academic fields, such as accountancy or physiotherapy to dignify the studies they carry out, and it has been

In the 1960s, most of the country's research and development was carried out in the universities, with industry lagging far behind. In the 1970s, this began to change, and now the distribution of R&D efforts resembles that of other western countries — about 60 per cent in industry, 30 per cent in the universities, and the rest in government or private institutes.

ISRAEL DEVOTES 2.7 per cent of its gross national product to R&D, which puts it higher than most other developed countries. Since half of this work is carried out in the defence establishment, and since the economy's future growth will depend heavily on the development of sophisticated industrial exports, all speakers at the symposium agreed that the percentage of resources devoted to R&D should increase in the future.

To advance the cause of basic research while overcoming the defects of the old system of internal research while overcoming the de-establishment of new funds external to the universities, and augmenting the existing ones — such as the National Council for Research and Development, the PGC, the Binational Fund (operated in conjunction with the U.S.) and the Basic Research Fund of the Academy.

These external funds would provide most of the money for basic research in the universities, a common practice in other industrialized countries. And the grants would be made only on the basis of strictly objective criteria, he stressed.

THIS WOULD MEAN an unequal distribution of funds among universities, departments, fields and professors, he said, but that is not an unacceptable price to pay for quality. Among other things, it would have the effect of keeping down research allocations to the newer, semi-academic fields.

Some of Harari's colleagues at the symposium took exception to his harsh words about some fields not being worthy of the term "research," but no one objected to his critique of the system of funding through internal university channels.

One of his biggest problems in struggling with the Treasury for more funds for the universities is the sense of achievement and well-being created by the current level of Israel's high-tech industry and the large output of scientific papers in recent years.

This feeling is illusory, he said, because it is based on investments made in higher education 10 to 15 years ago.

The severe cuts in basic research made in the past few years will show up as industrial or scientific decline only 10 to 15 years from now — and then it will be too late.

Realizing that he was preaching to the converted at the symposium, he noted with despair that "those who should really hear this message are not here today."

## Joy in Tiberias

By HELGA DUDMAN  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

gesting the following deal: any restaurant that will turn off its television will get a live music ensemble from us.

It is no secret that there is a lack of good eating places in Tiberias; there may be a few, but most numerous are the milk bars, where the sound level of the amplifiers (and often the prices) is higher than the quality of the food. Nor is the city famous for its cleanliness. Not long ago, school children participated in a special clean-up campaign, but before long, trash littered the area again.

RECENTLY, a sizeable meeting of hotel, municipal, service, and other personnel was held to try once again to attack the problem of making Tiberias a tourism centre worthy of its natural resources. As one veteran hotel owner put it: "We must make coming to Tiberias a celebration" — which, of course, is the purpose of the festival.

"But the native Tiberian is a pessimist," he continued. "He mutters, 'Well, that's Tiberias, and there's nothing to be done about it.'"

And in a great many cases, he exploits the tourist by charging outrageous prices and giving poor service, although tourism is the city's only real industry.

Zeharia Liraz brings an unusual measure of optimism as well as experience to his work in planning and coordinating the complex project of Festival Kinneret '84, and also visualizing its expansion for 1985 and 1986.

He does not favour traditional festival events, which tend to be large and long performances with huge audiences which remain sepa-

rated from the performers by some sort of barrier.

Instead, his philosophy involves a multitude of small events through which the visitor may thread his way, and he is prepared to work hard for spontaneity. He believes that people can enjoy "cultural events," even if their own cultural background has not prepared them for these, and that they will even behave well "if the atmosphere is right."

THE DREAFFUL problem of traffic is already being anticipated in Tiberias. Extra police will be on duty to "discourage" drivers from going through town, and recommending alternative routes.

The budget for Festival Kinneret '84 is estimated at between \$100,000 and \$120,000, with funds coming from the Tiberias Municipality, "which has been unusually helpful and cooperative," the Ministry of Education's department of culture, and the Tourism Ministry, among others.

"We believe that the special atmosphere of this event can put Tiberias on the international festival map — an infinitely varied, fluid, informal experience of man responding to beauty and culture, in this matchlessly beautiful environment."

Meanwhile, the newest acquisition in Tiberias is an enormous blue intestine — a piece of static plastic environmental sculpture — which graces the southern entrance to the city.

This is a horribly sited example of the newest wrinkle to tempt the jaded Israeli: an over-sized water slide — *migasha* in modern Hebrew — made in Germany, and Hellenistic on a huge scale.

"The children love it," say the fond parents.

But visitors driving to the Kinneret Festival via the Jordan Valley should be warned of the visual abomination that awaits them.

Tiberias has a new "visiting card" — an indication of what is happening to this "matchlessly beautiful environment."

### Situations Vacant

Basic skills counsellor needed for sheltered workshop, part time, 02-247589, 02-822840, Dennis, Laifman.

Ally Hospital requires psychologist, nurse for baby home, occupational therapist, bookkeeper, life guard for pool, POB 9117, Jerusalem.

Offset letterpress printer, 4 sheet, good conditions, 02-299191.

Seeking cleaners for religious educational institute in Jerusalem.

English secretary, typing, translation, public relations, 541127, 02-5214.

Independent bookkeeper for factory in Ma'ariv Admin. 251560, 252188, 02-5214.

Religious institute seeks English typist with Hebrew knowledge, part time, 02-248113, Jerusalem D.I.

Mid-level, housework, daily, 02-699200, evenings.

Industrial food plant seeking experienced production manager, graduate of certified institution, 02-52945.

Tagg, experienced and certified laboratory worker with knowledge of chemical engineering processes, training given, 02-21389.

Tagg, excellent Hebrew typist, hourly basis, good terms, 02-21389.

Teacher-run kindergarten, kindergarten teacher with progressive education ideas, 02-719761.

Seeking keyboard operator/secretary, experienced in microcomputers, afternoon and evening hours, 02-221451.

Manpower, laboratory worker for food laboratory, shift work, 23436, 7-8-9.

Public institution seeks experienced secretary-typist for full-time, English and Hebrew, English mother tongue, 02-341411-2-3.

Domestic required twice weekly, Tel. 02-637933.

Meppel, 3 days, 12:00-13:30, cooking, references, 02-630585.

Sales clerk required to work at building site, half time, Ashdod Construction Co., 224145.

Person required to care for elderly lady, every day, 660364.

Translation, new agency seeks translators, all languages, POB 3794, Jerusalem.

Lawyer's office requires bookkeeper and administrator, half time, 228161.

Flat contents cupboard, luxurious refrigerator, large safe, toys, dishes 24-19 Buda, Friday till Monday.

Oven and grill, gas burners, Colson built-in, in packing, 02-541827, evening.

Baroque, (brass) easy chair, new American leather desk chair, 02-668111, weekdays.

Video and movie camera 1840 and ten, 350, 02-635277, not Shabbat.

Air Conditioners

Bargain, General Electric air conditioner + heating, new, 02-419489.

Office Furniture

Seeking general clerical work or bookkeeping, preferably part time, mornings, 59, English, German and French (partially) speaker P.O.B. 2391, 3310 Tel. Jerusalem.

Musical Instruments

This is the time to buy or recondition a file, trumpet, clarinet or saxophone. This is the time to tune a piano, all under one roof, complete professional service, Jerusalem Flute and Saxophone, largest manufacturer, importer and exporter in the country, 02-81101.

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Harpicaster, new, used pianos, 13 Ben Shimon, 02-244166.

New and used pianos at big discounts, rent, tuning and repair, 12 Shimon, 02-226644.

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Adorable Pekinese puppy, sire Israeli champion, 02-714202.

Bassett hound puppies, for sale, charming, certificates, 719024, 02-226644.

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General Electric 22, side-by-side, like new, excellent condition, 02-54727.

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JVC video, movie camera, semi-professional, 02-533018, not Shabbat.

Televisions

TV METZ, black & white, good condition, Tel. 282115, afternoon.

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Good secretary, educated, typing, split shift, 02-630523.

Waitress, bar attendants, English-Hebrew speaking, night work, 240379, evenings.

Intelligent secretary, flexible, non-smoking, full time, 02-524076.

Seeking pediatrician for medical center in Ma'ariv Admin. 02-525233, work.

Seeking storekeeper with know-how for spare parts department at Gideon Levi Garage, 717233, 717553.

Male graduate of vocational yeshiva in general metals work field to work for salary + percentages. Write with curriculum vitae and experience to POB 555, Jerusalem.

Experienced youth leader, full time, for community centre in Ma'ariv, 02-542154.

Bookkeeping office seeks independent bookkeeper, 02-541843.

Domestic help, 4 day week, references, 02-212301 weekdays.

Har Lelo Field School requires part time worker, including cleaning 02-25286, 02-741678.

Secretary for dental surgery, afternoons and evenings, 1410-30, 02-411056.

Talented bookkeeper, English typing POB 1105, Jerusalem.

Saar Co. requires security guards shift work, 228437, 72 Julia, references, 02-24680.

Maharaja restaurant seeking waitress in afternoon hours, 243186.

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Israkarta Ltd. seeks full time beginning clerk, 5 day week, 520847.

Industrial plant (Nir) requires clerk for essential department, grade 2 with experience preferred, Tel. 852362-4.

Government institution requires excellent bookkeeper, full time, 02-321508-9.

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Hebrew/English secretary-typist for full time; secretary-typist for half time; afternoons, Keter Publishing Co. 521301, Iris.

Public institution seeking domestic guide, English, Hebrew essential, additional languages preferred, 02-416333.

Public institution requires secretary, half time, English an advantage, 661231-77.

Architect, landscape architect, at least 3 years experience, required by Ma'ariv Administration office, Ein-Dor, 02-410143.

Zion Tevile Co. Ltd. requires experienced secretary, fluent Hebrew and English, for varied work, Tel. 523869.

Ramat, cleaning woman required once weekly, 884852.

Bayit Hazadon requires nice-looking waitresses for evening work, good conditions, 533886, Yacov.

Accountant's office requires typist with experience in typing balance sheets, working hours 12:00-19:00.

Industrial plant in Atarot requires quality control workers, 02-851488.

Clerk required for aluminum work, factory, knowledge of English and typing desirable, 02-820985.

Swedish Village, cleaners required, mornings, excellent conditions, 24076, 234017.

Devoted caretaker for 2 handicapped children, Armon Hanatza, 714944.

Supervising security guards, Jerusalem, local preferred, Apph Sunday, 8:00-12:00, 16:00-18:00, Mr. Moshe Abaram, Hechal branch, Rehov Agon, Jerusalem.

Manpower requires: 1) Hebrew-English typist; 2) terminal keyboard operators; 3) years experience; 4) Hebrew-English word processors; 4) bookkeeper, 2 years experience, 02-233436-7-8-9.

Manpower requires: 1) carpenters, construction experience; 2) engravers, aluminum casting experience, know-how; 3) diecasters, plastic designing experience; 4) mechanics, metal workers, mechanical specialization, 02-233436-7-8-9.

Sales hostesses, cosmetics products, high commissions, 02-232551.

Food products agent, experience essential, good conditions, 02-221970.

Junior for religious high school, 02-22346, 02-21168.

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For monthly rent, 400sq.m., parking + power, all purpose, 02-418520.

Bargain, small/large storage rooms for short/long periods, 02-532131, for 1489.

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## Hahuach Hehadash

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS





THE YOUNG performers of the Italian Falso Movimento troupe use movement, slides, multiple sources of light and loud recorded music ranging from Debussy to punk rock to depict the decline of civilization in a show called *Tango Glaciale*.

The performance gives us a brief ironic view of what used to be called culture - Greek statues in a colonnaded museum - but most of it portrays a disintegrating urban domesticity: cartoon conversations in a living room, a TV-set shoot-out on the roof, the shattering of a kitchen and bathroom, and finally, a backdrop of houses which gradually disappear, leaving a desert view of mesas and valleys, accompanied by a chant of "This is the last scene."

The slides are projected onto the blank backdrop by a machine in the midst of the audience. The three dancers interrupt the beam so part of

## Ironic view of culture

### ISRAEL FESTIVAL '84



the backdrop is on them, and their shadows are projected, larger than life, as cutouts on the backdrop. The action seems to be a struggle between the two-dimensional and three-dimensional: cartoon versus human movement, and cartoon wins.

The movement lacks control and is hardly more distinguished than what you'd find in a rock hall. The shadows are the most impressive thing about the dance.

The production seems to emerge from its two-dimensionality in a segment in the middle. We visit a house

with a garden. Masses of flowers are projected on the backdrop, and the dancers, with their backs to the audience, rhythmically "snip" them with real, large scissors. When the dancers turn around, we see that they wear animal masks and stripes on their chests - red and black or green and black.

Similar stripes are projected in rapid-fire sequence on the backdrop, and the animal prowling is more convincing than some of the other movement. This, as I understand it, is what is still alive beneath the urban sprawl, and this unchanneled ferocity is what quickens the pace of destruction.

On the whole, the techniques employed in *Tango Glaciale* are rich, varied and inventive. But ultimately they fail to make us feel that the collapse of civilization is a real loss.

MARSHA POMERANTZ

SCOTTISH EARLY MUSIC CONSORT - Monteverdi and his Contemporaries (YMCA Auditorium, Jerusalem, May 23).

COPYING the form of the original presentation of Monteverdi's *Combattimento* in Venice in 1624, the Scottish Early Music Consort began its programme with instrumental pieces by Salamone Rossi (1570-1630), and Biagio Marini (c.1587-1643), interspersed with madrigals by the great Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643). Performing on instruments fashioned after Baroque models, the restricted, rather veiled sound of the stringed instruments blended well with the harpsichord, expertly played by John Kitchen.

The madrigals were sung by Fiona Milne (mezzo-soprano), who has a most beautiful voice and pleasant delivery, and Paul Hindmarsh (tenor), Alan Oke (baritone), and Richard Perrett (bass). The tenor's voice came over too strongly at times, but matched the baritone quite well. The bass seemed the weakest link in the vocal quartet, being hardly audible.

The presentations recreated the music of the 17th century with great love and dedicated precision, but the *piece de resistance* was undoubtedly the second part of the programme: the scenic performance of *Il Combattimento di Tancredi e Clorinda* (from Torquato Tasso's *Gerusalemme liberata*). A famous example of Renaissance works in history of music courses, this dramatized presentation brought to life a rather chilling story, well acted in stylized movements (produced by Roger Savage), with Paul Hindmarsh excellent as the story-teller, bearing the brunt of the performance, and Fiona Milne and Alan Oke as the combatants. The gory happenings in the action were tastefully indicated by the other two singers, and the

## MIXED BAG

instrumental ensemble gave harmonic support.

The effect was tremendous, and the capacity audience thanked the ensemble with heartfelt well-deserved applause.

YASUKAZU SATO - Tiger in the Bamboo Bush (YMCA Auditorium, Jerusalem, May 23).

THIS PROGRAMME turned out to be a very mixed blessing. According to the advance publicity, Sato specialized in collecting and using hundreds of percussion instruments from many countries and cultures, and one obviously assumed that he would apply them in interesting rhythmic combinations and exotic sonorities, based on old traditions and cults. Indeed, the stage was crowded with an array of drums, bells and gongs of many sizes and types, flanked by huge amplifiers and numerous microphones (partly for the broadcast).

Of the two hours' programme, only some 10 minutes in the second part were devoted to a brilliant display of brachial strength combined with some extremely dextrous handling of the assorted percussions in ever-changing sonorities and dynamic climaxes.

The majority of the evening was spent listening to monotonous background rhythms familiar from wedding parties on prepared tapes or electronic devices, with Sato performing meaningless improvisations on electronically amplified non-Eastern instruments. As long as those were restricted to meditative moods in hushed dynamics one could make an effort to trace some

associations; but these moments were quickly destroyed by the crude blaring of tiny instruments which were apparently modern versions of some ancient ancestors. The continuous filtering of the solo through

### READERS' LETTERS

#### JEWISH TERRORISM

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - It is a sad sign of moral turpitude when Gush Emunim members and their apologists try to distance themselves from the Jewish underground by blaming the latter merely for "taking the law in their own hands," a phrase bandied around repeatedly.

Don't these religious people from Gush Emunim know that the Ten Commandments not only order to keep the Sabbath holy, but also not to kill? So far none of their public utterances have dealt with the moral abomination of killing innocent people, but merely with the administrative aspect of "taking the law in their own hands."

Netanya. Dr. JACOB ROSIN

Sir, - Jewish terrorism is a cancer and if this disease is allowed to persist, the very life blood of Jewish society will be drained. It is vicious.

several channels to produce an echo or vibrato effect soon were very thin. Bewilderment was replaced by irritation among many in the audience, and I was taken to task by several of them for misleading them in my preview. I apologize, but I was misinformed myself. This was simply a one-man pop group very pretentiously camouflaged.

YOHANAN BOEHM

A Jew arrests an Arab who throws stones at his car and brings him to the police - only to be arrested himself because arrest of citizens is illegal.

A Jew who fires on Arab stone-throwers is arrested and jailed for months as I have heard from settlers. Incidents such as these result in despair. The Jew is a scapegoat all over the world, and now it seems that he is to be a scapegoat in the Jewish state as well. Jews do not hold Jewish blood cheaply - and this is what has led first to despair and ultimately to violence.

Jerusalem. Varda HEINEMANN

#### BIBLE TRANSLATIONS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - It would be interesting to hear where your contributor, David Geffen, in his article on Haggadah of April 16, found the translation of Deuteronomy 6:20 as "What are the testimonies and statutes and laws which the Lord God has commanded us?" and who understood this to mean that by these words, the wise son "identifies with his ancestral past."

In every English translation of the Bible and Haggadah known to me, the passage ends with the words "which the Lord God has commanded (or gave, or enjoined upon) you." And the lesson derived is first, that he recognizes the division of the Divine precepts into the three categories; and second, that he is aware of their Divine origin. Whereas the wicked son not only excludes himself

from his people, but contemptuously refers to the Seder as "this service," in the sense of servitude.

See the late Cecil Roth's enlightening footnote on page 15 and 16 of his Haggadah and its translation.

NEHEMIA H. BEHR

Judge (Retired)

Ramat Gan.

David Geffen comments:

The actual translation of the verse Deut. 6:20 is as Judge Behr notes "you" rather than "us." I allowed myself the licence of translating the verse according to the way it is cited in the Septuagint, the Mekhilta, the Jerusalem Talmud and the Haggadah of Mainz (where the verse has the word "oianu (us)" rather than "etchem (you).") It was on the basis of that translation that I pointed out that the wise son identified with his ancestral past.

DARRYL ROSENBERG, pianist. (Tel Aviv University, Targ Auditorium, May 23) John Cage Sonatas and Interludes (1946-1948).

WHAT A day for piano buffs. While 16 pianists in the capital were getting ready for their grand act at the Binyanei Ha'uma, a single pianist on a single piano - albeit a "prepared" one - in Tel Aviv conjured as rich, colourful and provocative a sound universe as any to be encountered this side of the synthesizer.

Darryl Rosenberg played - for the first time in Israel - the complete *Sonatas and Interludes* by John Cage, and it was an event: the unusual hour notwithstanding, the "who's who" of our musical life showed up.

The young Bostonian performed the hour-long work with evident dedication. Personally acquainted with the composer, Rosenberg has been presenting the piece throughout the U.S. and Europe for some years and appears to identify completely with Cage's striking imagination and fierce individualism. The sensitive musician's intellectual stamina was matched by infallible digital precision, indispensable in a piece with a different timbre attached to almost every sound.

If the bolts, screws and rubber bands between the strings of the piano, used in "preparing" the instrument, appear to the eye - and to the unaccustomed mind - to be a brutal intrusion, the sound effect they produce is nothing of the sort. In fact, the overall sonority, while rich in colours and exotic effects, is remarkably gentle; the fascinating profusion of sound timbres providing virtually limitless polyphony opportunities. The atmosphere thus created is more often than not one of intimate, meditative serenity. In such environment, silences are pregnant with meaning - a point convincingly stressed by the performance.

The 16 sonatas, sized after Scarlatti's rather than Beethoven's examples, and the four interludes demand unfaltering concentration - both from the performer and the listener. The uniquely moving, thought-provoking esthetic experience provides the reward.

ELI KAREV

## Tribute to Cage

### MUSIC

ISRAELI MANDOLINE ENSEMBLE, Moshe Yacobson, conducting; with Adi Etzion, soprano and Jonathan Zak, piano. (Halla Auditorium, May 15). Pergolesi Concerto. Mendelssohn from "A Midsummer Night's Dream": Piano and strings K. 107, No. 1; Rahn Alexander: "Four Israeli Dances"; Poulenc: "Air Champetre" and "Air VII"; Bernstein: excerpt from the musical "West Side Story"; Borovik: excerpt from "Prince Igor"; Shostakovich: excerpt from "The Song of the Forests"; American Suite of songs, arranged by Gil Aldema.

THE EVENING marked the 60th anniversary of the Meir Shifeya Youth Village, where the Israeli Mandoline Ensemble was founded in 1950 by Moshe Yacobson.

The programme was rich and versatile, and included seldom-heard works as well as favourite vocal and instrumental compositions. The start was the lesser played Pergolesi Concertino that was rendered with ease and clarity.

Jonathan Zak performed the solo part in the Mozart with skill and commitment.

In the vocal part the two short Poulenc songs emerged best. In the Arias from Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the text was not all clear and the "I Feel Pretty" from the West Side Story was definitely not appropriate to Adi Etzion's style of singing.

Moshe Yacobson and the Israeli Mandoline Ensemble achieved good results with Alexander's colourful Israeli Dances. They also brought some nostalgia with the concluding

performance of the Amiran Suite of Songs - well arranged by Gil Aldema - which used to be played in the Bikurim Parade that took place in Haifa in the Thirties and Forties.

ESTHER REUTER

ISRAELI CHAMBER ORCHESTRA, Meir Wiesed, conductor; Mira Zakai, alto; Boris Berman, piano; Emmanuel Gruber, cello; Michael Weintraub, flute (Tel Aviv Museum, May 16). Weber: Trio for Piano, Cello and Piano; Concerto for Piano and Orchestra; Wolf: Italian Serenade (orchestral version); Carl Loewe: Six Songs and Ballades.

AGAIN Boris Berman's Music Spectrum series surprised with little-known music. Carl Maria von Weber (1786-1826) is known for his magnificent opera *Der Freischütz*, but aside from the backeyed *Invitation to a Waltz*, his instrumental music is heard very rarely. It is fascinating to hear how the classical and romantic elements fight for hegemony in his work, and yet somehow manage to live side by side. This, of course, poses problems of interpretation but so convincing were the performances that everything seemed natural. The strange trio, with Michael Weintraub, Emmanuel Gruber and Boris Berman, was sparklingly alive and extremely beautiful in sound. In the *Konzertstück*, Berman demonstrated a flowing forward movement that almost made unpredictability a virtue. Meir Wiesed was a reliable accompanist.

It was a splendid idea to sing Loewe, Mira Zakai was not in best form, but still all six numbers were movingly interpreted. Of particular interest were *Meine Ruh ist hin* from *Faust*, immortalized by Schubert, *Gretchen am Spinnrad* and *Erlkönig*, again well-known in Schubert's version.

BENJAMIN BAR-AM

The American Jewish Committee and The Student Christian Forum invite the public to hear Rabbi Dr. Jack J. Cohen who will speak (in English) on RECONSTRUCTIONISM Sunday, May 27, at 7.30 p.m., at the Swedish Theological Institute 55 Prophets Street, Jerusalem.

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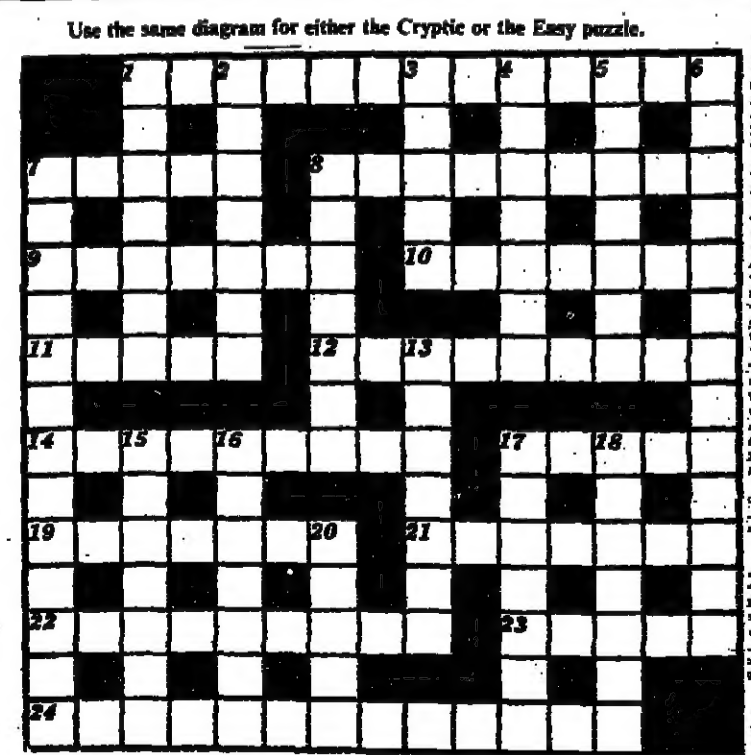
### Cryptic

#### ACROSS

- 1 He got Elizabeth Taylor playing many roles (7, 6)
- 7 Movie made by the Chancellor abolishing taxed capital (5)
- 8 Busman on lightning strike is there to protect us... (9)
- 9 ... And he alone is denied the right to be a driver! (7)
- 10 Can't have young germs exterminated in such conditions (7)
- 11 Do it in afterwards! (5)
- 12 It's hard to keep secret the fact that one's at work (6-3)
- 14 Spirited manufacturer? (9)
- 17 A cover injured my eye! (5)
- 19 Wants to account for this condition (7)
- 21 Ghost fighter! (7)
- 22 Hard white substance got from gum like this! (9)
- 23 They have leaves of paper, these suppliers (5)
- 24 Here, we don't expect people to be commissioned to provide for troops (9, 4)

#### DOWN

- 1 Puts light out, not being dark (7)
- 2 Refuse to leave a place looking like this (7)
- 3 Unusual Andes race of Europeans (5)
- 4 Object to the one who first made this Hawaiian music (7)
- 5 Bird sank teeth into pole for choice delicacies (7)
- 6 Little enjoyment we get from such verses! (7, 6)
- 7 Clean tables Dr. ordered for entertainers (6, 7)
- 8 Whipped cream the French find sweet (7)
- 13 Contemptuously played the fiddle! (7)
- 15 People getting a good hiding here, during the Blitz? (7)
- 16 Ape, wild; I tame it (7)
- 17 Content to be unimportant, so to speak! (7)
- 18 Can barely stand working at a rubbish-heap (7)
- 20 You'll be better off if you do board! (5, 2)



### 'Quickie'

#### ACROSS

- 1 Office furniture (6-7)
- 7 Gives pain (5)
- 8 Vehicle for the sick (9)
- 9 Break, as a law (7)
- 10 Very fast cat (7)
- 11 Horse-like creatures (5)
- 12 Disease of dogs (9)
- 14 Ungraciously curt or casual (9)
- 17 Imitation jewellery (5)
- 19 Inactive (7)
- 21 Not precise (7)
- 22 Picturing in the mind (9)
- 23 Shiny material for clothes (5)
- 24 Elizabethan poet (6, 7)

#### Yesterday's Solutions

TRADEMAN SCORES  
ACROSS: 1. Alpha, 4. Leather, 5. Iceland, 8. Angel, 10. Evoke, 11. Amides, 20. Eddy, 22. Treason, 23. Slay, 24. Naive, 27. Tremble, 28. August, 29. Seize, 30. Down, 31. Lapse, 32. Awake, 33. Haggard, 34. Elude, 35. Mystery, 36. Torment, 37. Debut, 38. Rock, 39. Amend, 40. Libel.

#### Quick Solution

- 1 Very angry (7)
- 2 Considered low, common scamen (7)
- 3 Shaped like dice (5)
- 4 Think to be true (7)
- 5 Unceasing (5-4)
- 6 Famous, 20's dance (3, 10)
- 7 Enjoy oneself (4, 1, 4, 4)

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## The odd couple

IF NATIONS get the governments they deserve, then political parties must get the partners they deserve. But Herut deserves better than the Liberals. For where the former represents not only a constituency, but also a political course, the Liberals today have almost no constituency and no political course whatsoever, except to hang on Herut's coattails.

Little wonder then that these two partners in the Likud should have been in turmoil over the wholly legitimate attempt by Herut to modestly curtail the number of Liberals on their joint Knesset list. Since the spoils of office are the sole remaining purpose of the Liberal politicians this Herut intention was perceived as a fiendish cruelty.

Moreover, Herut, knowing its customer, sought to nail down an agreement on unity of the two parties before the elections, for fear that after the elections the Liberals, or at least some of them, while elected on a Likud list, could bolt to Labour in the event of a Labour victory.

Such absence of mutual trust is not an inspiring prescription for a political bloc. The malaise was further deepened by the nature of the principal actors. Mr. Moda'i and Mr. Aridor, chief negotiators for their prospective parties in the furious tangle that emerged, barely tried to conceal their animosity. In addition, Mr. Moda'i zigged and zagged to such a degree that not even his own party knew what he was doing and why.

Thus while Liberals with some sense of dignity, like Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat, were berating their party from within, Herut politicians, like David Levy, were castigating it no less vigorously.

For the innocent spectator not familiar with the party scene it would have seemed as if a split was inevitable, if for no other reason than parties who say and believe such things about each other would not suddenly turn around, join hands, and ask the electorate for its support.

But Israelis by now have learned to know better. The only question is whether the cynicism of this shot-gun marriage won't this time be even more than the hardened Israeli voter can digest. Mr. Shamir, Mr. Levy, Mr. Moda'i and even Mr. Aridor will strive to put the best face on this essentially bitter reunion, during the election campaign. Yet even in this effort the motives will differ. The prime minister will feel, and with sincerity, that the Likud, as presently constituted is essential for electoral victory and the realization of Herut political aims. But the Liberals can at best only mouth their slogans. For their purpose in seeking electoral victory is personal and not political.

The two parties, even in their renewed alignment, will still, therefore, be talking different languages. One real, the other phoney. And the voter will hear.

## Capricious partner

By SARAH HONIG

IN O. HENRY's short story *The Ransom of Red Chief* tough kidnapers make away with a mischievous little boy, only to discover that their small, apparently helpless victim terrorizes them. In despair the abductors are forced to pay off the boy's father to please take him off their hands.

This is roughly what happened to Herut this week. The party leaders set out to overcome once and for all the taunting, troublesome Liberal Party, only to find themselves at its mercy.

The two parties, it seems, are now back to where they started from — Herut angry and powerless and the Liberals having the brazen last laugh. If appearances are not misleading, they are staying together, despite everything.

But although the tie between the two appears to be still knotted, no one can be sure. The experiences of the past week have shown above all that in the Liberal wilderness, things are never what they seem.

Although, on the face of it, the Liberal Party has voted to continue its partnership with Herut, it really voted for a continuation of negotiations, which thus far must be among the strangest in the annals of politics.

Despite outward expressions of satisfaction, Herut leaders privately admit they are shaken up. Never had they experienced the conclusion of so many agreements, only to see them evaporate into thin air in a matter of hours after the deals have been sealed with the customary handshake. A top Herut minister admitted to *The Jerusalem Post* that even the talks with Arabs had not been so full of sudden lurches and surprising about-turns. "The Liberal Party has once again proved that it is unique and unrivaled in its capacity for antics and intrigue," he said.

No less dismayed were some members of the Liberal camp, where one of the five ministers taken back by the impetuous and spasmodic changes of mood and position by Yitzhak Moda'i, said he hoped that this grueling chapter in Liberal history is indeed about to end. "I can only hope," he added, "in the Liberal Party one can never be absolutely sure, unless one is viewing events in retrospect — and even then I am not sure that surprises are not possible."

But there is little time left for shenanigans. Less than a week now remains before the May 31 deadline for presenting lists of Knesset candidates. Less and less likely it becomes each day that the erratic Liberals might prepare to go it alone — not that they or the majority among them — had ever intended to take the chance.

SINCE 1961 the Liberals — then already in decline — have not dared run on their own. They have no way of estimating their actual vote-getting potential, but if political analysts and pollsters are to be believed, their electoral power is next to nothing. For 19 years the Liberals have been living and thriving as never before on Herut's blood supply.

Why the Liberals would not want to terminate one of the sweetest deals in Israeli politics is obvious. The fact that they could play such an astute hand of poker during the past week, and all but bring Herut to its knees, does not indicate anything about the cards held by the Liberals. Rather, it shows up the ineptness at the gambling table of the Herut side and its basic weakness.

It has long been an axiom among the pundits that Herut had not really emerged from the underground, that it basically lacks confidence and feels not quite part of the establishment. The Liberals are seen as establishment par excellence and thus can confer legitimacy upon Herut.

That may indeed have once been the case, but is no longer relevant these days. For Herut to have a traumatic fear of going it alone is evidence of political cowardice, of a conservative fear of upheavals — such a major handicap could only become more crippling after the elections.

The plain fact of the matter is that now Herut leaders will not be able to count on a moment's peace and quiet. They will constantly be looking over their shoulders to make sure that the Liberals on their coattails are not about to sprint to grab someone else's coattails.

THIS HAS been Herut's haunting nightmare up to now. The 18 Liberal MKs in the outgoing Knesset — as all sides will admit — have, largely, not been elected because of their own merit but at Herut's expense. The fear in Herut is (and has been) that the grossly over-represented Liberal Knesset contingent could cross the lines in the House and team up with Labour. These fears are growing now that the possibility of losing the

July 23 elections looms large. Herut could find itself in the opposition and cut down to a representation far below its actual electoral strength by a Liberal walkout with Knesset mandates won by Herut votes.

This is the real motive behind Herut's attempts to amend the Gahal agreement. Herut sought to stave off a Liberal betrayal in two ways. First, it would cut the Liberals down to size. Not their real, diminutive size, but enough to make sure that the Liberals would at least enter the Eleventh Knesset with as few members (or freeloaders, as they are called in Herut), as possible without upsetting the Likud apocryph.

Since that would still leave the Liberals with a healthy over-representation, the second Herut idea was to make their Liberal partners live up to oft-sounded but never acted-upon commitments to unite the Likud components into a single political entity. This could not prevent a Liberal defection, but it could make it far more difficult.

In a united party, where all assets and party forums would be merged, individual Liberal MKs would still be able to cross the Knesset lines at their convenience, but without being able to claim any share of the sizeable holdings of their party. Moreover, in a united party, the prime minister would not be obliged to appoint his cabinet members according to a factional formula, but as he saw fit. This could, in theory at least, make for a smoother government machine, should the Likud be voted back into power.

The Liberals have been blamed over the past few years for many of the hitches which have hindered Likud governments thus far. Chief among the trouble-makers was Moda'i, whose election as the Liberals' number one was viewed as very bad news in Herut.

But unity's biggest bonus would have been no separate Liberal list for the 12th Knesset. All Likud candidates would have been elected by the united Central Committee, which would certainly have cut the Liberals down to size quite considerably.

Herut insisted on such a union prior to the elections, and for a very good reason. Before almost every general election campaign, the Liberals promise with great fanfare to unite the Likud once and for all — after the elections. But once election day has come and gone, and another oversized Liberal contingent has comfortably occupied Knesset seats won by Herut, these undertakings are either forgotten or actually opposed, on the argument that the Liberals cannot agree to allow "the Liberal identity and ideology" to be assimilated through a merger with Herut.

To date, the Liberals have not yet been able to clearly define their identity, much less their ideology. The latter was somewhat frail even in the days now regarded with some nostalgia by the Liberals, when their party affairs were run by the great founding fathers, Yosef Sapir and Peretz Bernstein. Even then the party's ideology was no more than skin deep; the politicians of the then General Zionist Party were renowned for their interminable bickering and squabbling.

The only difference is that, at the time, the party had a much clearer middle-class, small-business constituency, something it can no longer claim. It is doubtful if there really is a shopkeepers' or merchants' electoral sector these days, although the Liberal bargainers have certainly shown that when it comes to dickering, they would be a match for any shopkeeper.

ONLY THREE years ago, on the eve of the last general election, the Liberals and the rest of their Likud partners took part, with great pomp and circumstance and much high-minded oratory, in a rally that announced the first move to a real Likud union. It was presided over by the then prime minister, Menachem Begin, a figure that should have exercised real authority over the unruly Liberals. Despite the very clear public undertaking, nothing came of the commitment to unite.

The first commitment was made 19 years ago when the Gahal agreement between Herut and the Liberals was finalized. At the time, the Liberals and Herut defined that agreement as a temporary arrangement and a prelude to full and early union.

The temporary arrangement has since taken on a hallowed aura of its own, and the engagement, rather than the marriage, has become an end in itself. The demand for a wedding ceremony has come to be regarded by some Liberals as illegitimate and tantamount to rape.

Herut's greatest concession last week was to agree that the wedding

## The Friday Dry Bones



would once again be put off till after the elections. That is a very familiar and oft-heard tune in Likud circles, the only difference this time being the fact that Herut made its demands for matrimony much more vocally and stridently than Begin's gentlemanly and chivalrous courtship.

Both Herut's macho approach and Begin's old-world serenading have failed miserably with the Liberals, who clearly know what is best for them.

The power was in Herut's hands, as the vote-getter in the Likud. But Herut suffered from a failure of nerve not unlike that of the Jerusalem Betar football team, which managed to stay on top of the heap almost till the end of the league matches, only to buckle under at the last minute.

Herut thought it could call the turbulent anarchy Liberals to order and put them in their place, but it had not counted on the cunning and unpredictability of the Liberal Red Chiefs, who were far more than a match for Herut. The Liberals managed to put Herut through an agonizing negotiation process, which will not be forgotten in a hurry.

A former leading Labour cabinet minister told *The Post* a few days ago that, for the first time, he "feels a real twinge of pity for Herut. Can't they do anything about those Liberals?" he asked, adding some uncomplicated and unprintable adjectives about the Liberal Party in general and Yitzhak Moda'i in particular.

ALREADY MORE than a week ago, the harassed Herut negotiators completed a deal with four Liberal ministers appointed as a negotiating team. But when the team returned to their party with the agreement, Moda'i not only rejected the deal they had worked out, but fired them. The new team was to be headed by himself, with Justice Minister Moshe Nisim in tow.

Herut was dazed, but went back patiently to square one, with no more than a bemused annoyance, since the Liberals have always been known as "strange and unpredictable."

Herut, in short, humoured the Liberals and it seemed to pay off because, last Sunday, a second deal was struck. Hands were shaken and Moda'i even consulted out loud with his Herut colleagues on how to get

the deal ratified by the Liberal central committee that afternoon.

He left Jerusalem at 3.00 p.m. for the committee session in Tel Aviv but, by the time he had finished addressing the members at 6.00 p.m., the shocked and shaken Herut leaders realized that what he had actually proposed was a separate Liberal ticket.

Another round of negotiations took place last Wednesday, in which Herut, back to square one yet again and this time badly rattled by Moda'i's wild games and unpredictable temperament, gave in and agreed to postpone indefinitely his demands for full union once more. Although the agreement appeared to have been struck, the Herut leaders were in for yet another traumatic blow.

Moda'i, again addressing his party's central committee, did not communicate to it the essence of the agreement reached a few hours earlier, but instead issued an ultimatum to Herut to drop all demands for any sort of amendment in the Gahal agreement within 24 hours, or else.

This time Herut was not rescued by its own prowess, but by the fact that time was running out and that Moda'i's own fellow Liberal ministers had had enough of his antics. They outnumbered him, and decided that the remaining wrinkles in the Herut-Liberal agreement be ironed out and that the Likud would not split.

The Liberal negotiators could, of course, still come to the remaining negotiating sessions with a pack of surprises. There is still the thorny question of where the Liberal candidates will be placed on the Likud list. Good slots are almost as important as numbers.

Herut has offered the Liberals three candidates out of every 10 on

the list, with the Liberals guaranteed the third, sixth and ninth slot in each group of 10. The Liberals are out to do even better.

AST THINGS stand now, barring any more thunderbolts out of the chaotic and incomprehensible Liberal blue, Herut has only a very small face-saving achievement to point to. It has cut the Liberal representation on the Likud list by two. The Liberals will have only 16 instead of 18 of the first 50 slots. That has not even come close to solving the problem of Liberal over-representation and, with the public relations damage the apparent Likud disintegration has already wrought, it might happen that the entire bloc finds on July 24 that it has won fewer Knesset seats than it counted upon.

If the worst does not happen for the Likud, however, Herut will have managed to crowd more candidates into the Knesset who did not do well in the Herut Central Committee internal elections. Thus, Dan Meridor, Uzi Landau and even Communications Minister Mordechai Zipori and MK Eitan Livni could conceivably be back in the House again.

The only certain thing is that the Liberals will now be far more manageable than ever before. The ups and downs and violent about-turns of the past few days cannot but have increased Red Chief's audacity and capriciousness.

If the events of the past week have taught the incorrigible *enfant terrible* anything, it is that no one will give the Liberal Party as much as a good spanking — no matter how naughty it is. The party now knows that it can pursue its devilry with total impunity.

Readers' letters: page 16

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the northern part of the  
country. The decision follows  
the attack on the  
nuclear power plant in  
the north.

A spokesman for the  
Japanese Association for  
the Environment said that  
it had been decided to  
build a new nuclear power  
plant at Kashiwa, near  
Tokyo. The plant would  
be a 1,000 megawatt  
unit, and would be the  
first of its kind in Japan.

The spokesman said  
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